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SPRING INTO EASTER AT BARRY HIGH STREET PAGES 22-24

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COWBRIDGE IS READY TO WELCOME THE NEW SEASON! PAGES 28-29

SIX NATIONS BACK PAGE COMMENT ON WALES PAGE 48

Fundraising efforts to remember Tanya are really taking off

Tanya Floyd's husband Mark (left) and his brother Paul got very muddy recently at a fundraising run. (For a full report, and more photos by Glyn Evans, see page 7).

FAMILY and friends are intensifying their efforts to provide a lasting memorial to Tanya Floyd, the 40-year-old mother of three, who died suddenly last October.

It was two weeks ago that Y Bont Faen Primary, where Tanya's three sons were pupils, announced that the school would be fundraising to build a running track.

The fundraising was kick-started by a grant from Tesco, and plans are being finalised for a number of events in aid of the project, which will be available to Y Bont Faen's neighbours, Ysgol Iolo Morganwg.

Meanwhile, Tanya's family and friends are planning more events, aiming to raise cash for the running track, and for the Bridgend-based charity, Y Bont.

(SEE PAGE 7 FOR A FULL REPORT)

Pupils at Ysgol Iolo Morganwg, above, have been celebrating a new Spanish connection. (SEE PAGE 3 FOR THE FULL STORY).

Warning after family pet is poisoned

by GEM REPORTER

A Vale family suffered three weeks of anguish after their much-loved dog was laid low by rat poison.

Katie Brew, who lives in Crawshay Court, Llantwit Major, told The GEM that Ted, who is a bouncy seven year old, fell ill one Saturday night.

She explained: "Three weeks ago, one Saturday night, Ted just wasn't right.

"He's a bouncy, very active dog who is on the go all the time. He was very quiet and not eating or drinking."

The next day she took him to the vet's and the theory was that he had a problem with his pancreas. He was put on a course of anti-biotics, but a week later he was little better and on the Tuesday, had a nose bleed. Nasal cancer was considered.

But a further visit to the vet showed bruising round the groin indicating "a massive internal bleed".

Katie said: "The vet was 99 per cent sure it had been caused by rat poison – there's been a spate of it with cats."

Katie has heard of three cats recently who died due to rat poison.

With Ted, it took a couple of weeks for the symptoms of rat poison to become apparent. Once diagnosed, he was put on Vitamin K tablets. Since then, he has been recovering well.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)

Ted is recovering well after being poisoned.

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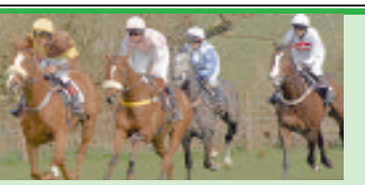

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Vale may 'twin' with area in Haiti or Africa

OVER 200,000 people lost their lives and over 1,200,000 people were rendered homeless after the earthquake that devastated Haiti in 2010.

Haiti Hospital Appeal was built out of this catastrophe – a charity that was initiated by two British drama students.

Haiti is the poorest country in the western hemisphere. Many Haitians sadly do not have access to adequate healthcare, meaning many die unnecessarily when basic treatment could have saved them.

This is particularly the case with childbirth in Haiti, having the highest rate of infant mortality in the western hemisphere.

To counter this great tragedy, Haiti Hospital Appeal has to date built a hospital, which includes a spinal care unit, and an all-purpose sports centre equipped with state-of-the-art equipment.

The money raised from this campaign is donated entirely to Haiti Hospital Appeal.

This year, Barry Male Voice Choir will once again hold a concert at Holy Trinity Presbyterian Church at 7.30pm on Thursday, April 21.

Grace Hartley, an up-and-coming singer/guitarist, will also augment the show with a 20-minute slot.

Tickets (£5) are available from me on 01446 749727, or from the church hall.

Jane Hutt AM is to raise the question of twinning the Vale of Glamorgan with an area in either Haiti or Africa. German cities have twinned with those residing in equatorial Africa for several years.

This is to be highly commended, as these people live in poverty that many of us cannot begin to understand.

Later this year, Ms Hutt has volunteered to hold a coffee morning and continues to be an inspiration to this campaign.

I'd also like to pay tribute to patrons Raymond and Michelle Smith for their support.

Godfrey Knight, Barry.

Observatory: some more questions

THANK you very much for printing my recent letter requesting information on the Barry Astronomical Society observatory.

Several people contacted me and as a result we now know the general location of the observatory, and indeed, I was able to see one gate that is still standing that once led to the observatory.

We also know that although the society seems to have finished around 1923, the observatory stood, complete with its telescope until after the Second World War. The site was used by the military during the war.

Questions still needing answers include, if it stood well into the 1950s, do you remember it?

Did you visit it? Were you in school at this time and did you see or hear about a large telescope?

In particular, were you a pupil or teacher at the Glamorgan teacher training college?

Dave Powell,
(Tel 02920 551704)

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Readers' Letters

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• Letters and e-mails MUST include your FULL **address** and a contact **telephone number**.

An email address alone is not sufficient!

We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail.

Best place to live in Wales – *but for how long?*

THE *Sunday Times* recently published its interpretation of the 10 best places to live in Wales; while recognising the potential risk of subjectivity behind its analysis, the publication is likely to stimulate some interesting discussion regarding the way in which housing should be developed in the Vale of Glamorgan.

The Vale was one of only two Welsh counties to have two locations in the Top Ten, namely, Penarth and Colwinston. The inclusion of the Victorian seaside town of Penarth will come as little surprise, given the splendour of its architecture, its wide range of services and facilities, and its thriving town centre.

By contrast, Colwinston has few traditional 'facilities' – although it does have a great pub – and its attraction is probably known to few people outside of the local community.

So why should Colwinston be singled out, when there are so many other towns and villages in the Vale (and elsewhere in Wales) who could legitimately lay claim to inclusion?

There is no simple answer to that question. What I do know is that Colwinston is a small, attractive, historic village of just over 100 dwellings which are perfectly set within the lush, rolling farmland of the Vale.

The village has developed slowly over time, with great care being taken to build upon the unique characteristics of its location, to preserve the surrounding countryside and open spaces, and to involve and bring together the varied backgrounds of the local community to generate a spirit and quality of life that is difficult to match.

Sadly, this situation might not last for much longer. The council's decision to allow a developer to build a new housing estate of 64 properties on agricultural land surrounding the village's primary school is likely to change the character and feel of the village forever.

I fear that the obsessive determination of the council to urbanise western Vale villages, to ride roughshod over the wishes of local residents, and to build on greenfield – rather than available brownfield sites – carries significant risks for the future, in relation to the way the Vale is seen by the outside world as a place to live, work and enjoy.

Unless there is a fundamental rethink of the council's approach to the building of much-needed new housing, involving the genuine and meaningful engagement of local communities, we may find that this is the last time a Vale village receives a 'Best place to Live' accolade.

I sincerely hope I am wrong.

Paul Griffiths, Colwinston.,

'Port Road is one big mess'

I HAVE to agree with the comments in last week's GEM, regarding the Port Road 'design' at Barry.

Both Mr Cousins and Mrs Coppins have valid complaints – it is just one big mess and really why the need for such a wide footpath?

You could still get cyclists and pedestrians on half the width!

It's wasted money by the council yet again and roads left full of potholes!

As for the stupid bus lane, not that many buses use the road, so why?

Wouldn't it be better to have the lane as a dedicated left turn for vehicles during the rush hours?

I'm sure that would ease the congestion that happens every morning.

Mrs Treena Howe,
St Athan.

Rare bus spotted

THIS morning I saw a bus using the bus lane on the Port Road roundabout.

Is this a record?

Bramble Coppins, Barry.

'GIVE WOMEN FULL CREDIT'

I WAS really bemused to see the article in your newspaper on whether Barry's Mayor should attend events in an official capacity as I believed that this was resolved 10 years ago.

I have a view that in Barry we do not recognise what women have achieved in the town.

International Women's Day is meant to reflect this, and we have many women who have excelled. To name a few: Grace Williams, Elizabeth Hughes, Dorothy Rees, Amy Evans, Carys Howe, Mary Lennox, Margeret Alexander, Julia Gillard – and many more, as Tom Clemett's articles can show.

Why can't the town of Barry celebrate International Women's Day properly? We have many who can organise a function to celebrate women's achievements.

So come on, Barry, let's make it a day to remember, but in the name of equality, invite the men!

Theo Stenstrom, Barry.

'Help save the forests'

I WOULD like to ask readers to help save one of the UK's most endangered forests and its rare wildlife by supporting Trees for Life in an easy and free online vote before March 22.

Our Rewilding the Highlands project has been shortlisted for the prestigious European Outdoor Conservation Association's funding awards, with more than £22,000 at stake.

Winning the online vote would allow us to expand our pioneering work to restore the Caledonian Forest in the Highlands – including by planting 50,000 trees, establishing habitats for wildlife such as red squirrels, black grouse and Scottish wildcats, and creating conservation opportunities for many people.

Please make a difference and vote at *www.treesforlife.org.uk/voteTFL*.

Alan Watson Featherstone,
Founder, Trees for Life, Moray.

'Am I a voice in the wilderness?'

AM I a voice in the wilderness? Am I the only person who is totally fed up with the number of unsolicited 'phone calls I receive on a daily basis, commencing at 8.25am (interrupting my breakfast) and the last call I received that day was 9.30pm, regarding my entitlement to PPI.

A recent enquiry was asking "Did I want my oven cleaned in a very competitive opening price offer?"

I mentioned I was registered with the Telephone Preference Service and suggested they should not be calling me; the caller had never even heard of Telephone Preference Service, this would seem to make the TPS totally ineffective.

Some time ago, I asked our MP to look into the issue of unwanted invasion into my privacy.

I was assured the matter would be 'looked into' and I would be contacted.

Sad to say, I'm still waiting for a response.

I am aware I can purchase a 'call blocking system': my response to this – why should I? I resent an intrusion into my time, being interrupted by people offering services I do not require.

Thank you for allowing me to express my feelings.

Changing the subject, I really do look forward to The GEM. Thank you all for a very good informative paper.

(Name and address supplied.)

'This rapid response qualifies as fourth emergency service!'

I WISH to reply to the Vale Council's statement with regard to parking tickets and appeals.

Is the spokesman really saying that after my letter was received by the appeal office in north Wales on Monday that they contacted the Vale, who then considered the grounds of appeal, possibly visited the street in question, and then replied to the query from north Wales, all in time for me to receive a letter declining my appeal on Thursday morning?

If this is the normal speed at which the Vale Council and the appeals office respond to correspondence, it must be the first time that two local authority departments have dealt with something this quickly; and perhaps they should be considered as the fourth emergency service, not the AA!

Mark Bell, Barry.

Follow The GEM on Twitter: @gem_news

HIGH TIDE TIMES
(UNTIL MARCH 24)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
17 Thur	00.33	8.0	13.21	7.9
18 Fri	01.57	7.9	14.44	7.7
19 Sat	03.27	8.1	15.54	8.2
20 Sun	04.27	8.6	16.55	8.7
21 Mon	05.14	9.1	17.36	9.2
22 Tues	05.55	9.4	18.14	9.4
23 Wed	06.29	9.6	18.47	9.6
24 Thur	07.02	9.7	19.19	9.6

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

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Commonwealth Day is celebrated in Cowbridge

IMAGE by MIKE WILCOCK

COMMONWEALTH Day was celebrated in Cowbridge by raising the Commonwealth Flag outside the Town Hall on Monday.

Town Mayor, Coun David Morris, said: "The raising of this flag was one of more than 850 Commonwealth Flags being raised in locations throughout the United Kingdom, Channel Islands, Isle of Man, UK overseas territories and Commonwealth countries in recognition and celebration of Commonwealth Day 2016."

The event is now in its third year.

"As the Mayor of Cowbridge with Llanblethian, Coun Morris added: "I was delighted to have the privilege of reading a message from the Secretary General for the Commonwealth – Kamalesh Sharma, to affirm our commitment to the Commonwealth and raise the Commonwealth Flag."

LOCAL WELSH MEDIUM PUPILS IN LINK-UP WITH CATALONIA!

KATHERINE SMITH, owner of Vale Languages, and pupils at Ysgol Iolo Morganwg, have launched a unique partnership with Escola Municipal Salvador Llobet, a primary school in the town of Granollers, Catalonia, 20km from Barcelona in Spain, as part of eTwinning, the digital community for schools in Europe.

The schools involved will use online tools to develop language skills sharing songs and poems. The children have written introductory letters and signed a Happy Easter banner to decorate their Spanish penfriends' classroom.

Over the coming weeks, they will learn about the Catalan book festival of Sant Jordi and make bookmarks for our new friends.

eTwinning is the digital community for schools involving over 300,000 teachers in 43 countries across Europe and beyond, funded by the European Commission as part of the Erasmus+ programme and managed in the UK by the British Council. In the UK over 12,000 schools have been involved in eTwinning.

Katherine Smith, who has run Spanish and French language clubs at Ysgol Iolo Morganwg for 14 years, said: "The junior Spanish club is really looking forward to working with Escola Municipal Salvador Llobet. I chose a school in Catalonia as the children are also bilingual in Spanish and Catalan, which is of interest to my pupils who are fluent in Welsh and English."

Comprehensive School students take over the BBC radio waves for a day!

The students with Jason Mohammad.

ON Thursday, March 10, pupils from Cowbridge Comprehensive went to Broadcasting House, Llandaff and took over the Jason Mohammad programme on BBC Radio Wales.

They came together with around 30,000 students across the UK who turned their classrooms into newsrooms to join the BBC in a unique interactive news broadcast, when 11 – 16 year olds reported on all the news and sport important to them in 2016.

This year will mark ten years of BBC School Report, in which more than 400,000 school reporters from years 1 to 9 have already taken part. There was coverage throughout the day on local, regional and national BBC news programmes and services plus 12 hours of continuous live coverage entirely dedicated to school reporters on www.bbc.co.uk/schoolreport.

Huw Edwards said: "I look forward to this day every year. I've seen first-hand how much can be learned from workshops in schools when we give students real journalistic deadlines and standards to adhere to.

"I'm involved because I want to give young people the chance to make the news themselves, and I want to share the principles of good journalism with them."

STOP PRESS

TOLL charges at the Severn Bridge are to be halved after the Budget.

However, the changes will not come in until 2018. Vale MP Alun Cairns said that the cut would be much bigger for small trade vans, from £13.20 to around £3.

Ysgol Iolo pupil Celyn designs Urdd badge

Ysgol Iolo Morganwg pupil Celyn Mitchell with her Urdd badge.

WITH the Urdd eisteddfod rounds well under way, Ysgol Iolo in Cowbridge had good reason to celebrate when eight-year-old pupil, Celyn Mitchell, won the national competition to design a new membership badge for the Urdd 2015-16.

The competition was advertised in 'Cip' magazine in February 2015 with 150 children taking part. Celyn's design, selected as the winning entry, shows Mister Urdd singing on the eisteddfod stage and will be seen on 40,000 badges.

Llio Maddocks, editor of Urdd Magazines, said that the standard of entries was high but Celyn's design was chosen because it was fun, colourful and "a lot of work had been put into it".

She explained that in recent years, membership badges showed Mister Urdd in various activities such as swimming, skiing and playing rugby. Surprisingly there wasn't one of Mister Urdd singing.

Mrs Rhian Williams, headteacher at Ysgol Iolo Morganwg: "It is wonderful to know that children across Wales will be wearing Celyn's design. We celebrated her success in a school assembly and encouraged our pupils to join the Urdd, especially as one of their fellow pupils designed this year's badge. Da Iawn Celyn."

SHORT STORY WRITERS

THE winner of the Cowbridge Book Festival short story competition, Zain Sami, was the guest speaker at celebrations marking the fourth anniversary of St Bride's Major community library.

More than 30 volunteer librarians and friends enjoyed curry in the Fox and Hounds before Zain – and the runner-up in the competition, St Bride's Major resident, Terry Pugh – talked about their experiences of writing short stories.

Terry told us how he had learnt that a continuous use of précis was vital to make the story succinct. He confided his fear of inadvertently using the ideas of other people when he writes.

Zain explained how the idea for his winning story, *The Secret Mystic*, had originated with his father's life in India. He talked about the need to vary the structure of sentences according to the situation – short and sharp for dramatic effect, while a copious use of adjectives is essential to paint an effective descriptive picture for the reader.

During their talks, both Zain and Terry encouraged all of us to write, not necessarily to enter competitions but for our own enjoyment.

Robert Carveth thanked the speakers and the remainder of the evening was spent in informal discussions with them.

St Bride's Major community library continues to flourish in the church hall on Southerndown Road, and it is open between 3.30pm and 6pm every Wednesday and from 10am until midday on Saturday.

It provides children's books, audio books, fiction and non-fiction as well as large print books, with different books arriving each month; recycling bags can be purchased. New volunteer librarians are always welcome – no formal experience is necessary!

Thanks to Mark and all staff in the Fox and Hounds for hosting our successful celebration.

PM

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Tributes paid to former mayor

'Emlyn was a true servant of the community'

EMLYN WILLIAMS, a respected former Vale and town councillor and mayor, who was due to receive the MBE at Windsor Castle on July 12, has passed away.

In a tribute, local MP Alun Cairns described him as "a true servant of the community".

Mr Williams served as Vale Mayor in 2004-2005 and again in 2009-10.

Mr Cairns said: " No-one worked harder than Em did. He was a hero to so many people. His network was built up through service and he introduced me to so many key influencers in Barry.

"Few towns benefit from such a strong champion. We have been very fortunate to have known him and benefited from his work.

"He was a committed politician and even when he couldn't walk because of failing health, he would still turn up to canvass on the weekend – in his car!"

Mr Cairns added: "My deepest sympathy goes to his wife Joan, son Mark and family. They have lost a husband, father and grandfather. We have lost Barry's strongest champion."

Former Barry Mayor Theo Stenstrom was a close friend and had visited him in hospital.

He told The GEM: "Although I was Labour and he was Conservative, politics didn't come into it with Emlyn.

"He asked to have a chat with me once about a constituency matter and we were good friends from that day onwards."

Mr Cairns will be working with the Williams family to see if a family member can go to Windsor Castle to receive Mr Williams' MBE or whether the Lord Lieutenant of South Glamorgan could make a presentation to the family locally in the next few months.

Andrew RT Davies, Leader of the Welsh Conservatives, said: "I was extremely saddened to learn of the passing of Emlyn Williams MBE. Emlyn was a man of great standing in the community and was a great friend to so many.

"He was an outstanding ambassador for the town of Barry having served for 38 years as a councillor.

"Emlyn's award of an MBE in the Queen's New Year's Honours list was thoroughly deserved and there was not one person who deserved such an honour more."

Emlyn Williams – 'a servant of the local community'.

Coun Neil Moore, Leader of the Vale Council, added his tribute: "Emlyn Williams was a long-serving and dedicated Vale councillor. He was a committed ward member who actively represented his constituents for many years. As mayor of the Vale Council from 2004 to 2005, and again from 2009 to 2010, he undertook the role with enthusiasm and dignity. He was well known locally and will be sadly missed."

Mr Williams represented the Illtyd Ward. He was born in Llansamlet, near Swansea, and settled in Barry in 1953 after 10 years service in the Royal Navy. He worked for Dow Corning, and its predecessors Allbright & Wilson and Midland Silicones as a shift manager, before retiring in 1985.

During his period of employment, he studied chemistry at Barry College and spent time at Dow's plant in Midland, Michigan.

He was elected a Barry town councillor in 1974 and, in 1979-80, he served as Mayor of Barry Town Council.

In 1977, he was elected to the former South Glamorgan County Council and also served on the former Vale of Glamorgan Borough Council before being elected to the Vale Council in 1999. He also served as a governor at Romilly Infants' School and Barry Comprehensive School.

DEWI SANT PUPILS MEET UP WITH FELLOW CELTS

ST DAVID'S Day week proved to be even busier than usual for the pupils at Ysgol Gymraeg Dewi Sant.

A spokesperson reports:

In addition to the weekly tasks, events and activities were organised to develop the pupils' appreciation of Welsh culture and traditions.

On Monday, they were treated to a performance from Llantwit Major Ladies' Choir who sang six songs in Welsh and also performed Welsh folk songs on the harp.

This was followed by Mrs Helina Rees entertaining pupils with Welsh songs on the violin. St David's Day allowed the pupils to dress in traditional Welsh costume or in their house colours for the school eisteddfod.

Following stiff competition and performances from all pupils, Cadog (Yellow House) were the worthy winners.

World Book Day had a Welsh theme this year, each class adopting a Welsh author, with yet another opportunity to dress up as a character. Mrs Wishy Washy proved very popular!

On Friday, the school hosted dancers and performers from the group Skedden Jiarg who had travelled from the Isle of Man to perform in a local Celtic festival. All of the pupils in the group spoke Manx and there was an opportunity to teach them some words in Welsh as well!

The week was an opportunity to make and eat our own Welsh cakes.

Gathering Place attracts grant – *and volunteers!*

SANTANDER recently came to the rescue to help local community clubs who regularly use the Gathering Place Methodist Church and Community Centre at St Athan.

With the increase in the number of community groups using The Gathering Place, effective storage for equipment used by the groups was becoming essential. Santander came to gladly came to the rescue.

Santander is offering local community projects a Discovery Day grant of up to £250 and up to one day's labour. All staff from Santander Barry branch gave up their free time and joined members of the centre on March 13 to help build shelving units, clear and rearrange the storage areas within the centre.

Deacon Samantha Taylor said: "We are extremely grateful to Santander for their generosity and hard work. It was great to see various members of the community working together on Sunday – a real community spirit!"

Simon Dodd, Sensei, Llantwit Major and St Athan Shotokan Karate Club, said: "This project has been a great success, The Gathering Place is a great centre for my club, I have increased the number of sessions I offer the local community now that I can store more items at the centre, thank you all".

The Gathering Place can be contacted by calling 01446 750700.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Your local correspondent is ***NANCY DAVIDGE***
"Tynewydd", Llangan.
(01656) 860303
TREOES, LLANGAN & ST MARY HILL

Llangan school

ON Friday evening, March 18 there will be a meeting at the school for Sports Relief.

I understand the proceeds will be shared between Sports Relief and the school's PTA funds. Refreshments will be available.

On April 22 there will be a school quiz, arranged by the PTA.

BCBC plans

TREOES residents have been advised the Treoes Community Hall will be open from 2pm – 8pm on Friday, March 18 for the viewing of the BCBC development plans.

Saron chapel

GO along to the vestry on Saturday, March 19 between 10am – 12pm and enjoy the many books which will be on sale, all reasonably priced.

Coffee and cakes will be available.

On Sunday, March 20 a service will take place at 3pm, conducted by minister Sonia Castle; everyone will receive a warm welcome.

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL
(ST ATHAN PUBLIC FOOTPATH No 2 (PART)) (TEMPORARY CLOSURE) ORDER 2016

On the 1st March 2016 the Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Section 14) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended) and with the consent of The Welsh Ministers made an Order the general effect of which is as described in the schedules below:

The Order came into force on 1st March 2016 and will be known as "The Vale of Glamorgan Council St Athan Public Footpath No 2 (Part) (Temporary Closure) Order 2016.

If you wish to question the validity of the Order or any provisions contained therein on the grounds that they are not within the powers conferred by the above Act or on the grounds that any requirement of the same or that any instrument made under it has not been complied with in relation to the Order, you may within six weeks from the 1st March 2016 apply to the High Court for this purpose.

SCHEDULE 1

1. No person shall proceed on foot in the locations specified in Schedule 2 below.

SCHEDULE 2

Location Footpath (Public Rights of Way) known as St Athan Number 2 from grid ref 301432 168186 in an easterly direction to its end.

Alt. Route During this closure a diversion from the point of closure in a southerly direction to St John's View then north via Rectory Road will be available.

Reason To prevent danger to pedestrians while construction work is carried out.

Duration From 00.01Hrs on Tuesday 1st March 2016 for a maximum period of six months

Dated this 10th day of March 2016

M. E. Punter,
Director of Environment & Housing
Vale of Glamorgan Council,
The Alps Depot, Wenvoe. CF5 6AA.

HOW JERSEY SURVIVED GERMAN OCCUPATION

THE Llantwit Major Probus Club's meeting for March was held on Tuesday, March 8 in Illtyd 216.

Members were welcomed by the president John Clarke who then asked the secretary to read the minutes from the AGM.

The outgoing president Colin Jenkins then handed the chain of office to John who in return presented him with a past president's tie.

Treasurer Tony Meakins gave an update on finances and signed copies of the annual accounts for 2015 were available for all members.

Roger Gullet informed members of the final arrangements for the trip to Newcastle Emlyn on Monday, May 3.

This month's speaker was one of our members Francis Harris who through his brother narrating on radio, gave us the story of Francis's life between the stages of 13 to 16 year old in Jersey during the island's occupation by the Germans.In an hour were told of many fascinating tales during this time, Francis being the youngest person to be imprisoned by the Germans at 16 years of age and during this time having to bargain for his father's life and freedom by revealing the whereabouts of a gun which they had previously hidden.

Francis kept his side of the bargain and his father was released from prison the day before he himself was freed.

Richard Vidler another of our members had brought with him a copy of the Western Mail Magazine dated October 17, 1998, the front cover carrying the headlines 'Saving Francis Harris The Boy The Nazis Couldn't Kill', the article having been written by the late Michael Boon, a well-known journalist and correspondent who lived in Llantwit Major.

What an amazing gentleman and story he lived to tell. **MM**

Warning for dog lovers after a poisoning incident

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

The cause remains a mystery. She doesn't know whether someone has put something down maliciously on the pavement or not.

Katie said: "I want local animal lovers to be vigilant. If it was deliberate, it is horrendous, because we love him so much.

"Ted has been very lucky to survive. He was so sick and suffered diarrhoea. Throughout it, he was so brave.

"On Facebook, I have had a number of comments from people – so kind and caring, and very concerned."

Go to the **Cowbridge GEM** for the latest stories and breaking news...
www.cowbridge-today.co.uk

Cowbridge Choir sprinkles stardust in Wiltshire

Audience participation.

Trevor Jones singing 'My Grandfather's Clock'.

Gwyn Jones singing 'Old MacDonald Had A Farm'.

PEWSEY is a pretty village to the south of Marlborough; this was our second visit to the venue in The Bouverie Hall and was eagerly awaited by our hosts.

The choir, conducted by musical director Shelley Thomas-Brown, accompanied by Sandra Williams, commenced the event with 'Divine Brahma', clearing the vocal chords for the start of their programme.

They then went on to sing 'The Water is Wide', 'You are so Beautiful' and 'Nazareth'. The soloist was Ms Kim Bott, who teaches piano at Marlborough College. She played swing, jazz and numbers from the musical theatre. She commenced her slot with 'Do it Again' followed by 'As Time Goes By', 'In Other Words', 'These Foolish Things' and 'Write Myself a Letter". These were well received by an appreciative audience.

The choir continued the first part of the concert with 'Cavatina', 'Bohemian Rhapsody', 'My Lord, What a Morning' and concluded the first half with a brilliant rendering of that traditional Welsh hymn 'Tydi a Roddaist' with the great 'Amens'.

The audience were asked to participate by counting the number of 'Amens' in pieces performed throughout the evening. I believe some had difficulty in counting as the number for 'Tydi' reaches 35!

The choir continued their performance opening the second part with 'I Bob Un', 'Let it be Me', 'Cwm Rhondda' and 'American Trilogy'.

Kim Bott then played 'Witchcraft', 'The Wonder of You', 'My Baby Don't Care for Me', 'Shadow Lands' from *The Lion King* and concluded with 'Stardust'.

The final section was the choir offering a medley from *Jesus Christ Superstar,* 'St Clement' ('The Day Thou Gavest Lord is Ended') and finally a Beatles medley. There was a standing ovation from a terrific audience of around 150, but that was not the end of the evening!

The choir continued with their customary 'After Glow', but fuelled by some excellent local ale and including the choir's special artistes, Messrs Robin Hughes (a hilarious compere), Dave Rees, bass baritone, Trevor Morgan, Mick Paynter, John Jones and despite his protestations, Gwyn Jones, acting and singing all the animal parts in 'Old Macdonald had a Farm'.

Thanks Pewsey – we will return! **KRM**

Pupils celebrate World Book Day

Year 5 pupils

Year 2 pupils.

ON Thursday, March 3, Ysgol Iolo pupils joined the many schools across the country to celebrate World Book Day – turning millions of kids into millions of readers. All the children dressed up as one of their favourite book characters and the impressive display of costumes was quite spectacular!

Go to the **The GEM** for the latest stories and breaking news...
www.cowbridge-today.co.uk/
www.llantwit-major-today.co.uk

WI ladies get a fitness check

IT was a busy evening at the March meeting of Southerndown WI.

Our president, Michelle had returned from her travels and hosted the meeting. There was voting on the nominated trustees for Glamorgan Federation; a discussion on a questionnaire concerning our Link meetings; a short review of the recent trip to the Houses of Parliament; and information on a plethora of events and activities taking place in the coming months for which we could sign up.

All this was completed before our speaker was introduced – Helen, who is an experienced physiotherapist. She gave a fascinating talk, explaining how it is recommended that 'women of our age' complete approximately 150 minutes of moderate exercise each week – that's about 20 minutes each day and includes walking.

Helen described how muscle mass can reduce as we age but exercise can help to improve our flexibility and strength, significantly reducing our susceptibility to injuries and falls.

We then worked in pairs to complete a series of carefully guided assessments of our flexibility, balance and strength.

I'm pleased to report that the ladies of Southerndown WI are predominantly fit and within the expected guidelines for our age groups!

Helen also gave us some simple exercises we can try at home. Following all that exertion, tea and biscuits were gratefully received.

Our coffee morning this month is on Thursday, March 17 at 10.30am in Michelle's house on West Farm Road in Ogmore, where parking is available.

Our next meeting is on Thursday, April 14 at 7.15pm in St Bride's Major church hall on Southerndown Road. Why not come along and join in the fun? **PM**

Pensioners' festive party – in February!

WICK and District Pensioners Club have been out and about with a belated, but very enjoyable, joint Christmas lunch with Wick Youth Club in February at the Lamb and Flag. They enjoyed a quiz and bingo.

This was followed by a relaxing weekend away in Torquay, when the weather was lovely and the trips and hotel were superb.

At the recent AGM, Ron Ayres was re-elected Chair, with Fay McGuinness deputy chair, Marj Dixon secretary, and George Jeffery treasurer. The next coach trip will be to Carmarthen and there are a few seats still available.

Please contact Marj (01656 890412) with regard to coach trips. The club meets on alternate Wednesdays in Wick Pavilion from 2pm-4pm. New members are always welcome; contact George (01656 890386) or Marj for further information. **GJ**

2016 MOMENTOUS 'SEA-CHANGE YEAR' IN THE FORTUNES OF BARRY ISLAND?

BARRY ISLAND will see some major changes in the next few weeks.

As you can see from Mike Wilcock's image of the second road to the Island, there isn't a great deal of distance to go until it meets up with the road network on the Island. Work is scheduled to be finished in July.

Meanwhile at the Pleasure Park work on new attractions continues apace including the new Barry Eye.

This summer will be one of the most momentous in Barry Island's history, boasting improved road links and a truly 21st century Pleasure Park.

With increased exposure in the media – both in Wales and England – over the next few months, local traders have every reason to be optimstic that 2016 really will herald a permanent sea-change in the Island's economic fortunes.

Coun Lis Burnett of the Vale Council said years of hard work were reaping rewards.

"Over the last four years the council has, through a multi-million pound renovation, transformed the Barry Island resort into one that can once again attract visitors from across the UK."

Vale MP Alun Cairns said: "The new Barry Eye is yet another fantastic addition to Barry Island and is symbolic of the regeneration that continues. They say a showman should always under promise, and over deliver – that is exactly what Henry Danter and his family have done over the past 12 months."

The 'super crane' at Barry Island has been working over-time to construct the new 'Barry Eye'.

Soon the Waterfront and the Island will be linked up.

ROAD IMAGES by MIKE WILCOCK

'Late pay is frustrating!' say staff

by GEM REPORTER

STAFF at Pizza Hut Delivery in Barry have complained they face the frustration of being paid late.

The franchise business arrived in Thompson Street in September and staff work late into the evening taking orders and delivering them locally.

The company told The GEM it had faced operational issues and stressed it was sorry for incovenience caused to the staff.

Staff contracts state that they should get paid on the last working day of the month, but on a number of occasions employees have had to wait up to seven or eight days for wages to go into their bank accounts.

The GEM spoke to two members of staff.

One said: "In October I expected to get paid on the last day of the month, but it was four days late and the same thing happened to other people.

"Wages have been up to eight days late. It is very frustrating for the staff. It has meant some people couldn't go out and do a grocery shop. Obviously, you feel worse for the people who have kids.

"There was even an instance where one of the managers loaned a member of staff money.

"It is really upsetting – when you don't get paid on time, you feel as if you're working for nothing."

Another member of staff said: "There is definitely a lot of anger. The managers feel helpless."

Some members of staff don't live in Barry which means they are paying for petrol to travel to work, only to have the added frustration of late pay.

Members of staff have often been paid late on different days so not all staff believe they have been treated equally.

But what will surprise people is that up until December all staff were paying a fee (£2 for normal employees, £6 for managers) for the administration of their wages.

The second member of staff said: "As most staff are on a minimum wage this was unlawful as it actually reduced the rate of pay below the minimum wage."

Staff say that when this was raised with the company, the practice stopped and staff are now awaiting refunds. They added the matter was reported to HMRC who are looking into the deductions.

Staff said the franchisee told them late payments were due to technical difficulties at the bank. They claim other outlets in south Wales have suffered similar problems.

Darron Keinzley of DJK Pizza Ltd explained: "Recently DJK Pizza Ltd experienced some operational issues which impacted payroll.

"Team members have since been paid and we are working with HMRC to check that all staff have received their full pay entitlement. We are very sorry for any inconvenience caused."

RNLI take over beach watch in Porthcawl

THIS summer, four of Porthcawl's beaches will be patrolled by a new seasonal lifeguard service run in partnership by BCBC and the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI).

For many years, the council has employed lifeguards at Coney Beach, Rest Bay, Trecco Bay and Pink Bay to help create a safe environment for local residents and tourists to enjoy the beaches.

"That same high standard of service is to continue through the new partnership, which has been approved by cabinet members from the local authority and the beach landowners," a spokesman said.

RNLI lifeguards will begin providing a daily safety service on Coney Beach and Trecco Bay from April 30. At Rest Bay, lifeguards will begin duty on May 28 and at Pink Bay from July 2. Lifeguards will be on duty seven days a week between 10am and 6pm at Coney Beach, Rest Bay and Pink Bay until September 4 and and Trecco Bay until September 25.

Stu Thompson, RNLI Lifeguard Manager, said that recruitment for RNLI lifeguards has already begun and the charity would be keen to hear from anyone interested in applying for Bridgend's 'best summer job': "The RNLI will be looking to recruit an enthusiastic and professional team of lifeguards who will get paid and equipped to save lives this summer.

"We're looking for strong swimmers who can swim 400m with a good level of fitness, aged over 16 years old. If you have the raw ability and the will to learn, we can help get you fit and qualified."

RNLI beach lifeguard recruitment is now open at jobs.rnli.org/lifeguards.html .

Delays as people head for beaches

Nose to tail on Park Avenue, Barry.

THERE were traffic delays through Barry on Sunday, March 13, as people headed to the beaches in the area.

Some local politicians criticised the Vale Council's road management, but Coun Lis Burnett emphasised road, pedestrian and cycle links were all being improved, some ahead of schedule and that public figures shouldn't talk the town down.

MP Alun Cairns said: "Traffic problems overseen by the Vale Council must be sorted as a matter of urgency.

"The summer of 2016 has the potential to be the busiest in decades. For the first time since the 1970s, all the commercial premises have been let which is a superb indication of the revival of Barry Island.

"The Vale Council cannot continue to act as a drag on the growing prosperity thanks to the enormous amount of private investment and ambition shown by entrepreneurs like Henry Danter."

Plaid Cymru Assembly candidate for the Vale, Coun Ian Johnson, said Coun Shirley Hodges had contacted the Vale Council on Sunday about the traffic problems and was informed that the work was being carried out by Welsh Water and would be completed by the Easter weekend.

"We are obviously very concerned that this work on the Causeway will not be completed in time, cause further delays for holiday-makers visiting Barry Island and create bad headlines at a time when we should be promoting the Island and its excellent facilities."

Coun Lis Burnett, Vale cabinet member for regeneration, said: "For Alun Cairns to claim that the Vale Council is doing anything other than driving the regeneration of the whole town, including Barry Island, would be laughable were it not for the damage that it is doing to the town.

"His hollow rhetoric is embarrassing and is what gives politicians a bad name."

She said millions had been invested in creating a resort that was bringing visitors from across the UK.

"We have worked with Welsh Government funding to deliver a multi-million pound regeneration of the promenade. This did not involve Mr Cairns or anyone else from the Westminster Government.

"Improving access to the Island has always been recognised as the next piece in the puzzle. This is why we worked so hard, again in partnership with Welsh Government to bring the construction of the new link road forward by several years, established a park and ride system, upgraded the existing road layout, and are now improving pedestrian and cycle access.

"Interest in Barry Island is greater than ever. It is not a result of Mr Cairns' selfies on the log flume either.

"Quite what we should expect from a politician who seems to spend the majority of time at the funfair I'm not sure, but his repeated attempts to run down not just the Barry Island resort but the town as a whole do a great disservice to the community he is paid public money to serve," she added.

'Team Jeff' get grubby as they tackle 'Invincible Run' for Tanya's causes

'Team Jeff' at the starting line.

Tanya Floyd with her three children Joseff, Elis and Finley.

ABOVE: Mark Floyd (left) and brother Paul.

PHOTOGRAPHS by GLYN EVANS

OTHER PICTURES ARE AVAILABLE FROM THIS EVENT.

Pictures can be purchased by contacting:

E-Mail: ffotoimage@tiscali.co.uk
Telephone 07791 228684
www.ffotoimage.co.uk

by PHILIP IRWIN

FAMILY members who are raising money as a personal memorial to Tanya Floyd, the Cowbridge teacher who died suddenly last year, have just tackled their toughest test.

Tanya's husband, Mark, her two brothers, Paul and John, and her brother-in-law, Paul, took part in the '10K Invincible Run' in Margam Park recently, and as these photos by Glyn Evans show, it was no stroll in the sunshine.

The run includes a series of obstacles, many of them very muddy indeed, and the group, running under the team name of 'Team Jeff' made it around the 10K test and crossed the line together.

Tanya died suddenly last October, and two communities were devastated. She taught at Undy Primary School in Caldicot, but also spent time at Y Bont Faen Primary in Cowbridge, supporting the school that her three sons attended.

Tanya's father, Peter Clinton, told The GEM: "They came up with the name 'Team Jeff' for her three sons, Joseff, Elis and Finley Floyd.

"The team shirts were supplied by Y Bont, the children's centre in Bridgend, a charity that Tanya had raised money for."

Now, the fundraising team have two causes in their sights – Y Bont, and also to support the fundraising efforts of Y Bont Faen Primary, where it is planned to installed a running track in Tanya's memory.

The school recently received a grant from Tesco, and further fundraising is planned.

Peter Clinton said: "Team Jeff finished the Invincible Run in about 90 minutes. One or two of the team found it really tough but they stayed together to get round.

"Tanya's boys found it hilarious, watching their Dad and his friends getting tired and muddy.

"I'm thrilled to say that they have raised £3,065 so far for Y Bont."

Mr Clinton added that Team Jeff will be out again on July 2, taking part in the Pembrey Invincible.

Also, later in the year it is the 'Pretty Muddy' a similar run for women, and one that Tanya took part in last year.

Female friends and family will be getting just as muddy. Peter Clinton added: "There should be plenty of runners representing Team Jeff in that event, and some of the women have never lined up for anything like it before."

Total fundraising since Tanya's tragic death has now passed £14,000. Donations can be made at *http://www.justgiving.com/teams/tanyafloyd*

School's Velindre fundraisers sell out!

THE children at Evenlode Primary School were so egg-cited last week they raised an egg-straordinary £850 so far for the Velindre Chick Knit appeal.

The appeal has been running for 20 years now after its founder, Julie Smith, had the idea to get volunteers to knit chicks and fill them with Easter eggs to sell as a fundraiser.

This year Mrs Wakely, a school LSA who runs knitting club, organised the event and was surprised to see the number of chicks double this year to almost 1,000.

She has several knitters and decorators to help all year long to build up the stocks, and this year children were putting in requests for specialist designer animals including cats, dogs, hedgehogs, fish and even parrots!

Some of them even turned into little monsters – the chicks not the children! We have now nearly sold out.

Hopefully, after introducing a meagre price increase to £1.50 this year, we should be able to donate this money and a further £600 to the Velindre Cancer Research Appeal. Eggs-cellent news! **JM**

Vale council tax rise is confirmed – *'SCANDALOUS' SAY TORIES*

AN increase in council tax for the Vale of Glamorgan of 3.9 per cent was agreed at a meeting of full council last Thursday, March 10.

Coun Neil Moore, the Leader of the Vale Council, said: "As the cuts imposed by central government continue to bite deeper into council budgets, the task of balancing the need to protect the most important of our services and to limit the increase in council tax becomes ever more difficult.

"To cover the cost of this year's £3.3m cut in Welsh Government funding alone would have required an increase in council tax of 5.5 per cent. On top of this a combination of increased demand, increasing legislative requirements, and cost pressures has caused the cost of delivering our services to have risen by over £8m.

"Despite these unprecedented challenges, and due in large part to the £9.2m of savings we will achieve by redesigning our services to be more cost efficient, the council will next year be providing an extra £1.6m to the Vale's schools and an extra £2.2m to provide care and support to the most vulnerable groups in our society through social services.

"All of this will be achieved despite the council operating with a reduced budget and while still keeping the council tax for the Vale of Glamorgan below the Welsh average, and limiting the increase to the average band D home to less than £1 per week."

Coun Moore's reasoning did not impress the Leader of the Welsh Conservatives, Andrew RT Davies, who said: "This is yet another hammer blow to hardworking taxpayers across the Vale who continue to get a raw deal; plain and simple.

"Year after year, English householders have benefited from a Conservative freeze, yet here, the Labour Government snubs taxpayers and stands back while bills rocket.

"Since 1999, council tax under Labour in Wales has risen by 121 per cent which is frankly scandalous.

"Not only would a council tax freeze be a huge boost to the local economy, we believe money should be put back into the pockets of the people who know best how to spend it – hardworking Vale taxpayers themselves.

"On May 5, you'll have the chance to do such that by voting for change in Cardiff Bay."

Rock 'n' roll at the WI!

PENTA Pen-y-Bont WI's year of hosting the link (Coity, Coychurch, Ogmore Vale, and Pencoed) is over and a round of applause (and many pats on the back) are due to our president Val Williams, who came up with the ideas and then organised the three events.

Last summer at Pencoed Rugby Club, we had a 50s/60s tea. Dress was 50s/60s style and 50s/60s music was played by Porthcawl Ukulele Band, good sandwiches and cake, well known songs to sing along to and some rock and roll dancing.

December was the carol concert at St David's Church, Pencoed, and again this was well supported.

For the last event, in March, it was back to the rugby club for a black and white evening with dress code, table settings and even the raffle in black and white.

Entertainment was provided by the Mid Glamorgan Mixed Choir, who were also dressed in black. They sang a selection of songs from the shows and other popular ones. Members also enjoyed a two-course meal prepared by the rugby club. It was a lovely evening, with 90 members attending.

Horse riders warned

HORSE riders in Dinas Powys have been asked to take care when using the village common especially where children are playing.

Coun Chris Franks, chair of the commons committee, said the community council is concerned that there is the threat of an accident if riders do not act responsibly.

He explained: "A resident has informed us that horse riders have been jumping their horses over the lower logs on the children's play equipment located on Dinas Powys common. There are signs of horses' hoofprints by the equipment.

"This area is used by children of all ages, and with the better weather more children will be using the play equipment after school and at weekends.

"We have advised the police of the situation who are assisting. They are to visit the local riding schools making horseriding pupils aware that they can only ride their horses around the perimeter of Dinas Powys common."

The Air Ambulance gets £900 windfall at festive concert

Catrin Hall and Anne Hughes from the Wales Air Ambulance Service with BMVC chairman Gareth Roberts (on right) and treasurer Nick Meyrick.

BARRY Male Voice Choir's Christmas concert has become an important part of the town's festive scene when the choir, audience and RAF St Athan Voluntary Band combine to lift the spirits of all.

A total of £900 was raised for the choir's chosen charity Air Ambulance Wales, a vital service that depends on voluntary contributions.

Chairman Gareth Roberts said: "The choir is committed to supporting charities and voluntary organisations. It is pleased to receive the strong support from the community that has made this donation possible."

Half-term fun

BARRY'S Communities First group held a range of activities over the recent half term that got local children involved in fun and games.

As part of their Catch Up Club, a transition project that supports children and their family's progress from primary to secondary school, children spent a busy day being farmers and conservationists at the Amelia Trust Farm. They learned how to care for the farm's animals and built bird boxes and feeders to look after birds during the cold winter months.

A fairy and pirate family cinema day was held, in partnership with Parkside Christian Church and Vale Play Development. Many families enjoyed watching Tinker Bell and the Legend of the NeverBeast, before the children created pirate hats, fairy wands and colourful pictures.

For more information on the Catch up Club, Community Cinema and the other Barry Communities First projects, contact 01446 709432 or visit www.BarryCommunitiesFirst.org.

What's been happening in the hive?

WE are into March at the Fonmon apiary and, as expected, the current weather is holding back any external activity.

However, on Friday March 11, a sunny calm day with the temperature at 12◦c, external bee activity from all colonies was to be seen and pollen in abundance was very visible on many of the incoming bees.

This visible proof of winter survival is a pleasure to behold.

Throughout the winter months I have consistently inserted trays to the underside of various colonies in the apiaries, the number of mites that have been recorded as a result of these checks show that mild conditions have been very much to the fore.

Egg laying and the development of new bees is not the norm in an overwintering honeybee colony. The evidence that this has occurred has revealed itself because I am seeing Varroa mites that are dead adults (dark brown colour) and numerous dead pale coloured mites that have not reached maturity.

Why is this significant? Well, for the Varroa mite to reproduce it requires a cell containing an egg laid by a queen bee. This egg is a ready-made food source for the developing mites and the cell, once it has been sealed over (with a wax cap) is the ideal hatchery for the yet-to-be-reared mites.

In theory, once that egg has become a new bee and it chews through the wax cap and joins the throng in the hive, any mites should be ready to emerge as new breeding adults as well. This is not always the case, hence the pale mites (white) that I am observing.

To re-cap! *Overwintering = no laying queen = no eggs* and this equates to no new bees and, of course, no new mites. Any living mites will survive in the overwintering honeybee colony by consuming the bees' body fluids.

As we are aware, this winter's months have not been the norm, the bees have been active throughout as have the mites! Milder conditions will mean that an internal inspection can take place and I expect to find much in the way of eggs, larvae and sealed over cells containing ready-to-emerge bees.

Will that be the case? Watch this space!

HAROLD WILLIAMS.

FIRST (Ramblers') WALK IS THE STEEPEST!

LEADING her first walk for Penarth and District Ramblers on a lovely dry cool morning, Sue G and her nine companions set off across a molehill-splattered field and through meadows to the quiet village of Llandevaud with its daffodil-adorned common.

Crossing a series of stiles towards the derelict and abandoned fortified Tudor manor house of Pen-coed Castle, built in the 13th century by Sir Richard de la More, then refurbished by the Morgan family and later owned by Lord Rhondda, a muddy track and more fields led to a sunken lane for morning break.

Joining a road and deviating through the flat-bottomed, freshly-cropped valley below Coed Wen – where field ditches were running with excess water, after crossing stiles at Castle Farm where a great deal of ploughing was underway, a climb led up to the 13th century Penhow village church.

The original tower was completed in 1290, and the church was dedicated to the Abbot of St Mark in France until after the reformation, when the church was re-dedicated to St John the Baptist.

Sitting on the hilltop next to the church is the splendid Penhow Castle, originally granted to Sir Roger de St Maur, a surname which became anglicised to Seymour with its famous descendant, Jane Seymour, who became the third wife of King Henry VIII.

Descending Castle Lane past stables and crossing the busy A48, a rough but dry farm track led on below the disused Penhow quarry and two almost overgrown kilns, and with glorious views towards Parc Seymour the sun lit up the sky.

A climb on pathways still covered with autumnal leaves led through Castell-prin Wood, and descending through trees, yet another climb led into Wentwood or Coed Gwent. Originally a vast forest, it stretched between the Rivers Usk and Wye and contains ancient trees and is mostly managed by the Forestry Commission.

Exiting from the wood via steps to Yew Tree Cottage, a series of small meadows led back to the A48 and a welcome drink in the Foresters Oaks prior to the homeward journey.

To follow the group, log onto www.penarthramblers.wordpress.com or Facebook. Programmes and membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 029 2025 5102.

PACT meetings

CASTLELAND residents can meet local officers at Morrisons Barry, between 10am and 12 noon on Saturday, March 19.

Meet your local PCSO at The Gathering Place, St Athan, on Wednesday, March 30, between 2pm and 3pm.

COFFEE MORNING

THE Vale 50+ Strategy *Forum, with Atal y Fro and Safer Vale Partnership will hold a free coffee morning on March 23 at Golau Caredig extra care facility, ground floor, in Broad Street, Barry CF62 7AZ.*

Open from 10am with speaker at 10.15am on 'What is a healthy relationship?' Information on this subject available, all welcome.

Contact John Porter, Vale older people's strategy coordinator on 01446 709779; email jporter@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk, or

Ramekin and Pepper lead on to Ysgryd Fawr

FIFTEEN walkers, led by Robin from Penarth and District Ramblers, together with dogs Pepper and Ramekin, set off on a fine winter morning to climb muddy pathways through the woods up onto the ridgeway of Ysgyryd Fawr, also known as Skirrid, the Holy Mountain or Sacred Hill.

Stopping for morning coffee with outstanding views towards the snow-capped Black Mountains and across the open countryside of Herefordshire they descended a grassy slope to cross numerous stiles and fields, including two bridges.

A short climb brought them into the small rural village of Llangattock Lingoed, which is situated just east of the River Trothy.

Upon their arrival, which was only a little later than planned, a visit to the delightful 13th century pub, the Hunters Moon, for pre-ordered lunch and relaxation – before a visit to the pretty white-washed village church dedicated to St Cadoc which dates to 1254.

The medieval cross in the churchyard, classified as an ancient monument, lost its shaft during the Reformation in the 16th century, but was a focal point for religious festivals, such as Palm Sunday and Corpus Christi.

Inside are highly-coloured stained glass windows, and the rood screen separated the clergy from the people, with Holy Communion being administered in strict social order with the gentry heading the orderly queue.

Originally, there were no pews to sit on until 1820 when 16 pews, each seating four people, were installed for the use of landowners and rich farmers, while children, labourers and paupers had to stand. By 1874, major repair work commenced with 21 new pews being fitted, along with new carpets, lights and a pipe organ. When modern refurbishment occurred in 2003, a life size wall painting, depicting St George standing over a slain dragon, was uncovered.

Robin explained his original return route was unwalkable in places, so safely reverting to pathways forming part of the long distance Offa's Dyke path that stretches from the Severn estuary to Prestatyn in north Wales, early spring lambs and proud mums reminded the group rather fittingly, it was the day before Mothering Sunday.

The final part of the route was along the Beacon's Way to the flank of Skirrid where muddy steps that had carried them uphill at the beginning led them precariously downhill back to their start.

On March 19, meet at 9am at Cogan Leisure Centre for an eight-mile moderate walk at Penderyn and a request from the leader: no dogs please; contact Clive on 029 2065 4156.

On March 20, a change to the programmed walk, meet 9am at Cogan for a nine-mile moderate/hard walk to Fan y Big; contact John R on 029 2070 8294.

To follow the group, log onto www.penarthramblers.wordpress.com or Facebook. Programmes and membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 029 2025 5102.

JOY STRANGWARD

'Planning should not be driven by developers'

THIS week I was interested to receive the information through my letter box which was produced by the Welsh Conservatives.

It referred to the possibility of Labour winning the May election and that Jane Hutt AM and her Welsh Government colleagues would force 10,000 new houses on the Vale, causing inappropriate building; and abolish the Vale Council and merge it with Cardiff.

I live in Colwinston to the western side of the Vale and actually back onto a new development of 63 houses which are currently being constructed by Redrow Homes. I did not object to the planning application.

Why? Because from my professional experience and involvement in the current Local Plan process, I considered such involvement to be a complete and utter waste of time.

In another borough, I saw evidence of the close relationship that can develop between planners and a building company.

The Vale's LDP, which will set out how land in the area is to be used between 2011 and 2026, is currently being examined by a Welsh Government appointed planning inspector to determine whether the LDP "is sound".

Following completion of the examination, the inspector will issue a report which will detail the changes the council must make to the LDP and outline the reasons for them. The recommendations in the inspector's report will be binding on the council which must accept the changes recommended by the inspector.

The hearing sessions concerning housing allocations were scheduled for March 1-9 with the hearings for alternative sites being considered in April.

The Vale planners' proposals for housing allocations will have a major impact on transportation, with inevitable major issues at Waterton, Bridgend and Culverhouse, Cardiff. The hearing on transportation is scheduled for March 23.

I wonder whether this planning inspector will be as brave as the inspector who presided over the first Cardiff LDP examination and threw the plan out due to lack of soundness?

In my humble opinion, the current Local Development Plan process is full of defects. It is not as inclusive as intended and does not provide for sufficient, effective public input.

In an RCT enquiry, there was reference to a site in the Cynon Valley where within a few days before the deadline date for submissions/objections the local people became aware of the scheme and submitted (unfortunately 18 hours too late) a petition against the allocation of land, with over 600 signatures. However, due to the time limit, the inspector said he could not take it into account.

If the LDP is thrown out, although it is very unlikely, I hope the Vale planners will reconsider the Llandow Newydd Scheme which focused development on one site of mixed brown and green field land.

It provided a new residential village, shops and a primary school.

The promoters of the site were also prepared to construct the much needed Llysworney by-pass (included on local plans back in the 1970s), donate several millions of pounds to Llantwit Major and Cowbridge Comprehensive School, and provide a new railway station at the former Llandow halt.

From my experience of LDPs, they do not seem to take into account national and regional planning policies.

Instead, the big firms of developers are dictating where they prefer to build houses. Personally, I hope that the planning inspector throws out the Vale's LDP.

However, it will be too late for the communities of Llangan, Wick and Colwinston, where planning consent has already been granted; pre-LDP examination, and the construction of houses has already commenced. Surely the Vale planners should have been required by law to delay the granting of any such developments until after the planning inspector has provided his post-enquiry report ?

If the Welsh Assembly Government decides that the Vale of Glamorgan and Cardiff County Borough Councils should merge, then "the garden of Cardiff" (as the Vale is often referred to) will become the focus for future residential developments rather than the existing Cardiff CBC area.

Unfortunately, I think it is inevitable that these two authorities will merge and we will return to the old South Glamorgan County Council area (plus the inclusion of Wick, St Brides Major, Ogmore-by-Sea, Corntown and Ewenny communities which were formerly part of Ogwr BC and Mid Glamorgan).

In my humble opinion, the only hope for the Vale of Glamorgan post 2026 is for the Conservative Party to put forward a new Local Plan process where there is greater public participation, greater public awareness of the planning authority's proposals, and less influence by the firms of housing developers.

Gareth Davies,
chartered surveyor,
Colwinston.

NURSING HOME STAFF'S LONG SERVICE AWARDS

Jane Hutt AM with Coun Fred Johnson, Mayor of the Vale of Glamorgan and College Fields staff.

STAFF at College Fields Nursing Home in Barry have received long service awards and the home also said "goodbye and thank you" to Anne Gore, who was retiring after 27 years of service.

They were congratulated by Vale AM Jane Hutt, who also congratulated College Fields on their recent CCISW inspection report, and praised the 'family-like' community that had been created in the home.

CHARITY CRAFT FAIR

TRINITY Methodist Church, Penarth, will host a craft fair coffee morning on Saturday, March 19, 10.30am–12.30pm, where a wide range of locally produced crafts and Easter treats will be on offer.

As well as 24 craft stalls, there will also be a cake stall, a book stall and raffle. All profits will be donated to the Wales Air Ambulance charity. Also attending will be UK-wide charity Knitted Knockers who are collecting used postage stamps to help fund their valuable work of knitting woollen prosthesis for women all over the UK.

Entrance will be via the Woodland Place door and is £1.50 per person to include refreshments.

For more information, contact Ceri-Lou at fundraising@trinitypenarth.org.uk or Call Ro on 01446 701072.

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Wednesday 30 March	Thursday 31 March
Thursday 31 March	Friday 1 April
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The Waste and Recycling e-calendars on the council website have been amended to reflect these new collection dates
www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/recycle

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LAMBS SAMPLE LIFE INSIDE A PoW CAMP!

AS a follow-up to two highly entertaining talks last year by Mike Clubb, on the Bridgend Arsenal and the nearby Island Farm prisoner of war camp, members of the LAMBS local history group attended an open weekend of the Hut 9 Preservation Society at the PoW camp, near Bridgend.

The LAMBS group visit Island Farm.

It turned out to be a very special occasion which left everyone full of admiration for the work of the preservation society over several years, in producing a first-class educational and recreational facility.

The tour began at the Hut 9 visitor centre with an entertaining illustrated talk by Brett Exton about the chequered history of the camp, which had four separate and very different uses during and after the Second World War.

It was built as a hostel for women workers at the Bridgend Arsenal, but they rejected the hostel accommodation in favour of lengthy bus trips each day to and from their homes.

The first occupants of the camp were American soldiers, stationed there in 1943 in preparation for the D-Day landings.

The invasion of Europe in 1944 produced large numbers of prisoners, and Island Farm was selected to hold about 2,000 of them.

The War Office later decided that German officers, rather than enlisted men, should be held at the camp and the first of these arrived in November 1944.

On the night of March 10, 1945, 70 prisoners escaped through a tunnel but all were recaptured.

All 1,600 prisoners were then transferred out of the camp and it was designated as a special camp to house senior German officers, including many awaiting transfer to Nuremberg to face trial or give evidence.

These senior officers included men with the rank of general, admiral, and field marshal, and some had been among Hitler's closest advisers. The camp finally closed in 1948.

Following Brett's talk, the society chair, Jonathan Hicks, conducted the LAMBS party to Hut 9, where they were given a further talk on personal childhood memories and the work of the Preservation Society, by the vice chair, Richard Williams.

They were then invited to view a wide range of outstanding displays and presentations by volunteers dressed in appropriate uniforms that graphically illustrated the various periods in the history of the camp.

Finally, the party were taken to see the site of the escape tunnel, which led from Hut 9 out under a nearby fortified boundary fence.

On behalf of LAMBS, Trevor Morgan thanked Jonathan, and the many volunteers who had contributed to the weekend event, for providing such valuable insights into important aspects of our local history. **MB**

New £1.2 billion 'City Deal' could bring 25,000 jobs to the region...

THERE was cross-party approval yesterday as both the Vale and Bridgend county borough were included in the £1.2 billion 'City Deal'.

The deal, which brings together 10 local authorities, includes more than £500m of Welsh Government support towards improving transport infrastructure within the region. It is expected to deliver up to 25,000 new jobs and bring in an additional £4 billion of private sector investment.

Welsh Government Finance Minister Jane Hutt AM said: "This is an important milestone and the culmination of months of detailed negotiations. With the local authorities contributing £120 million, the total investment is significant.

"The authorities asked for the Metro to be a central project in this City Deal and we agreed that it can bring wider economic development."

Vale MP Alun Cairns said: "I am relieved that the Vale will be part of the City Deal.

"Being part of the deal means that our local area can benefit from major projects with improved infrastructure and job creation."

The Leader of the Vale Council, Coun Neil Moore, said: "The City Deal will bring benefits to all 10 local authority areas.

"The deal will also ensure that the Vale continues to be centre stage in the growth of the region and is able to maintain the momentum that has been generated by the regeneration of Barry and the recent announcement of significant investment in the St Athan Enterprise Zone."

The Leader of the Welsh Conservatives, Andrew RT Davies, said: "This once in a generation opportunity is yet further evidence that the UK government is prioritising Wales and that Conservatives are delivering for communities in the region.

"The hard work now begins on ensuring the deal delivers for all and benefits not only Cardiff but the people and communities across the region."

Eluned Parrott, Lib-Dem AM for South Wales Central, said:

"The City Deal programme was set up by the Liberal Democrats in the last coalition to give greater funding and powers to local authorities.

"This huge level of investment will see more powers given to local communities to take control, and ensure prosperity reaches every corner of our region, rather than localizing in one area.

AWARDS FOR HELPING THE HARD OF HEARING

LOCAL organisations who ensure they are accessible to the one-in-six people in Wales who are deaf, or hard of hearing, are being urged to bid for a prestigious award.

Action on Hearing Loss Cymru Excellence Wales awards recognise businesses and organisations who enable the 575,500 people to use their services.

Formerly RNID, it has been a charity supporting people who are deaf, or have hearing loss since 1911, and launched the Excellence Wales awards last year.

These are open to public services, private companies and voluntary organisations providing services in Wales. Entries will be judged by a panel of people who are deaf, or have hearing loss. Awards will be presented to the country's three outstanding organisations at a glittering gala dinner at Cardiff's Marriott Hotel on May 20, presented by journalist Mariclare Carey-Jones, alongside special celebrity guests.

In 2015, Bridgend County Borough Council was the main Excellence Wales award winner for their regular deaf awareness training for staff, engagement with local British Sign Language users and proactive approach to ensure assistive technology, such as hearing loops, are in working order.

Full information and applications forms are available at excellencewales@hearingloss.org.uk or call 02920 333034. Entries must be submitted by May 1.

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UNSUNG NHS HEROES
Caring Joy, Rosemary and Bev share top award

THREE members of staff from Age Connects Cardiff and the Vale willing to go that extra mile to help those in need were deservedly recognised at the NHS Staff Recognition Awards recently.

Joy Corley, Rosemary Counsell and Bev Williams were joint winners of the Chair and Chief Executive's Award – caring for people and keeping them well – day in, day out, and demonstrating the Cardiff and Vale University Health Board's core values of kindness, care, honesty, integrity, respect and personal responsibility.

The UHB state that this award is aimed specifically for the 'Unsung Heroes'.

A spokesperson said that all three women were nominated for their efforts in seeing patients promptly, looking at the whole person and going above and beyond their role in supporting the community resource team, to keep older people well and as safe as they can be at home.

PICTURED (left to right): Bev Williams, Joy Corley and Rosemary Counsell.

The Age Connects team work with individuals identified as vulnerable to social isolation.

Joy was especially recognised for her role working in partnership with Anna Sussex at the UHW in the better management of attendees to accident and emergency and out of hours referral thus saving valuable NHS resources.

Rosemary uses her own personal time to ensure the well-being of those she is working with. Bev spent Christmas Eve ensuring that an isolated and vulnerable older person was not without heating and did not come to any harm.

Rosemary Counsell commented: "We were absolutely stunned to realise that we had won the award, and thrilled for the recognition of the work that Age Connects does. It's a great privilege and very humbling, as we know many other people are working hard too without any public recognition".

To find out more about Age Connects Cardiff and the Vale services to assist local older people, visit www.ageconnectscardiff.org.uk or call 02920 683 604.

POLICE CAUTION: If it's too good to be true, it probably is!

DC IAN ROCHE, from the economic crime unit of South Wales Police, recently gave a well-attended recent meeting of Cowbridge U3A information on common types of fraud, and advice on what could be done to avoid becoming a victim.

Fraud imposes a massive cost on individuals, legitimate businesses and public authorities. Half of all victims are age between 41 and 60, so it's not just the "confused" and elderly who are susceptible; fraudsters are known to sell on a "suckers'" list, so that vulnerable people are likely to be targeted on multiple occasions.

The main types of fraudulent practices were described by DC Roche, including Boiler Room Investment scams where people are encouraged to buy shares or commodities such as vintage wine, which apparently offer excellent returns, but prove to be worthless, of course.

'Vishing' involves telephone calls purporting to be from the police or your bank, where access to your accounts or credit cards is sought.

One of the cruellest frauds is when victims are offered assistance in recovering the money they have already lost to crime, but there needs to be a payment in advance to cover the costs.

Some good news was that Chip and PIN credit and debit cards are far more secure than the older style cards with just magnetic strips containing information.

He urged people to keep personal information safe. Be suspicious of e-mails from people or organisations that you are unfamiliar with – if in doubt, don't open them. In the case of telephone calls, check out who you are dealing with – your bank and the police will NEVER ask for confidential information, nor ask you to move money between accounts, nor to give your credit card to a courier.

The best advice on keeping yourself safe from fraud was to remember, "If it's too good to be true, it probably is," he said.

A talk entitled: 'The Life of Composer Rossini, with piano illustrations' by Rev Clive Williams will given at 2pm on April 13 in Cowbridge Town Hall. Visitors welcome; there is a small fee, which includes refreshments. See www.u3asites.org.uk/cowbridge.

SPM

EASTER AT BARRY LIBRARY

MARCH 29, drop-in Easter crafts from 10am – 12pm for children 4+ (accompanied by an adult); £1 charge.

March 30, storytime at 2pm; **March 31** Minecraft, 2pm – 4pm; book online at www.milittlepad.com.

April 4 Dungeons and Dragons, for ages 9 – 12; April 6, storytime at 2pm. **April 7**, Minecraft 2pm – 4pm, book online as above.

April 8 crafty Friday, 10.30am – 11.30pm for ages 6+, call to book. £1 charge. Raspberry Pi 2pm – 4pm, for ages 9+; book online on Eventbrite.

To book a place or for more information, call 01446 422425.

Nutrition and hydration week!

NUTRITION and Hydration Week returns to Cardiff and Vale University Health Board (UHB) on March 14-16 and this year's theme is 'Important for your patient, important for you'.

The focus of the campaign is to create a global movement that will reinforce and focus energy, activity and engagement on nutrition and hydration as an important part of quality care, experience and safety improvement in health and social care settings.

Cardiff and Vale University Health Board will be running a collaborative initiative throughout the week between dietetics, nursing teams, catering and therapy professions, to promote the values of nutrition and hydration.

The public can visit promotional stands in the concourse at the University Hospital of Wales and The Plaza at University Hospital Llandough throughout the week.

Follow @CV_UHB and @NHWeek on twitter for regular updates on activities taking place throughout the week. Add the #NHweek tag to get involved.

The Stitch and Craft group.

Airport's record rise in passengers

FOLLOWING nine months of steady growth, the total number of passengers travelling through Wales' national Airport over the rolling year has passed the 1.2 million mark.

This follows a record-breaking February, which saw passenger numbers increase by 68 per cent (totalling 75,055) on the previous year.

Routes seeing the largest passenger growth are: 1. Dublin – operated by Aer Lingus and Flybe; 2. Edinburgh – operated by Flybe; 3. Paris – operated by Flybe; 4. Faro – operated by Flybe and Thomson; 5. Lanzarote – operated by Thomas Cook and Thomson Holidays.

Debra Barber, managing director and chief operating officer at Cardiff Airport, said: "2015 has been a real turning point for Cardiff Airport. Looking ahead to the coming year, we are confident we will build on this success. We continue to work with new and incumbent airlines to offer more travel choices for our customers and we will continue to enhance the passenger journey with a new departures area opening in summer 2016."

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Fascinating talk on the Houston brothers

IT was a return visit for Dean Powell when he spoke to the March meeting of Sully U3A, having previously spoken on the life of Dr William Price.

His subject this time was the actor, Glyn Houston. He told members about Houston's early life in Tonypandy, where he was one of three children, his older brother being the actor Donald Houston, and how his grandmother, Rose, was an important influence on his life.

Whereas his brother Donald's career as an actor took off after auditioning for a theatre group, becoming friends with Stanley Baxter and Richard Burton, Glyn served in the army in the Second World War and was briefly a stand-up comedian, performing to soldiers.

He made his first film appearance in *The Blue Lamp* in 1950 and this was the start of a career which has seen him make over 200 film and television appearances. He is now 90 years old and still does voice overs- and radio work. It was a fascinating glimpse not only into Glyn's life, but also Donald's and the film and TV industry.

Members also had a short presentation by representatives of the Age Cymru Handy Man team, who gave information on the services available to anyone over 50, including advice on smoke alarms, home energy checks and carbon monoxide alarms.

During the month, the Knitters and Stitchers Group has been busy, visiting Cowbridge for a presentation on knitting yarns and designs by a representative of Bergere de France and visiting the Stitch and Craft Show at Malvern.

The next monthly meeting will be on Thursday, April 14 at 2pm in the Old School, Sully, when members will be entertained by the Singing for Pleasure group. New members are always welcome.

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Little Grey Fergie is the star of The One Show!

BBC's *The One Show* came to the Vale of Glamorgan on Saturday, March 5 to film the Ferguson Model T.20 tractor, which is celebrating its 70th anniversary throughout the world this year.

The T.20 was built in Coventry between 1946 and 1956 by Harry Ferguson.

The Ferguson Club in south Wales organised the event at the request of *The One Show*. Filming started in Aberthin, Cowbridge at 9am with the Tractor Boys of Aberthin.

Martyn Huish was on hand to assist the *One Show*'s reporter, Christine Walkden, to work on a Ferguson Model T.20 – 'the little grey Fergie' – to get it ready for the afternoon filming at Ogmore Castle Field.

The Glamorgan Iron Horse Vintage Society helped to ensure that there were 22 Model T.20 Ferguson tractors on site at Ogmore Castle for the filming of the parade, with Christine driving the lead tractor.

A number of spectators attended the filming and a collection was made for the Wales Air Ambulance fund.

Christine thanked everyone for attending and for support given to the filming crew, and raised a glass to 'the little grey Fergie', with the hope that it will still be here for the next 70 years.

The south Wales representative of the Ferguson Club, Basil George, of Ogmore village, thanked the film crew for showing how much work is put into making a film for TV.

He also thanked Rob Williams for the use of his field, and the Glamorgan Iron Horse Vintage Society and the Tractor Boys of Aberthin for all their work in making the filming a success.

Basil welcomed the Ferguson Club's vice-chairman, Peter Aston, who had travelled from Gwent for the day.

Luckily the weather was good for the filming of the programme, which will help to ensure that the memory of Harry Ferguson will live on in the years to come.

All pictures by **GLYN EVANS**

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To ensure you get the information you need quickly, the website is mobile-friendly, so you can browse it on your iPad, tablet or smart phone.

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Local churches to join in annual procession

PEOPLE from all the churches of Barry will join together on Good Friday, for the fifth annual two-mile Walk of Witness through the town.

Father Robert Parrish, Rector of the Barry Churches of St Paul's and Merthyr Dyfan and organiser of the walk said:

"Everyone, children and adults, is warmly invited to join in at the start at the Parade Gardens at 12 noon, or anywhere en route."

The walk is being supported by churches of all denominations in Barry and will include children from church Sunday schools and youth clubs. Leaving the Parade Gardens, the walk will travel via Broad Street to arrive at King Square in time for a short service for Good Friday at 1.30pm.

The wooden cross, made by Barry College, will be carried in the procession to re-enact Christ's carrying of his cross on the way to his crucifixion.

This is the fifth year of the Barry Walk of Witness which first began in 2012.

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Cubs enjoy 100th anniversary party!

ABOVE:
The 1st Penmark with Porthkerry Cubs perform **Cinderella.**

THE 1st Penmark with Porthkerry Cubs' 100th anniversary party took place on March 2.

Leaders and helpers, past and present, heard about the good work that goes on in 1st Penmark with Porthkerry Scout group, Queen Scout and Explorer belt plaques were unveiled and the Cubs entertained with their version of *Cinderella* on a shoestring.

The guests and Cubs enjoyed a buffet provided by Coffee Time in Rhoose, although the Cubs were more interested in the cakes than the sandwiches! *a spokesperson reports*

Beavers and Cubs have also enjoyed a joint evening with pot decorating and a beetle drive game. They also invested new Beavers and several Beavers were invested into Cubs.

Beavers and Cubs have also taken part in the district swimming gala, where two members made it to the finals.

Scouts have completed their shooting and are looking forward to a walk and camp at the weekend. They are walking from Barry Boys Comprehensive School to Jubilee Fields on Saturday, then on Sunday, they walk on to St Fagans.

""This is a great challenge both physically, due to the distance involved and they have to carry all their food and kit – and mentally, as it allows them to work on their map reading skills.

Gangsta Granny was far from boring!

Students at the New Theatre.

RECENTLY, the 7BR class at Barry Comprehensive School was treated to a trip to the New Theatre in Cardiff to see *Gangsta Granny*.

They have been reading the extremely funny and lively book *Gangsta Granny* in the Learning Lounge with Mrs Turnbull and students from the Atlantic College.

Throughout the play, the boys laughed and squealed at the comedy performance of the actors on stage. Jake Hill, Jay Sansome and Logan Marks's favourite part was when Granny did naked yoga. Connor O'Kelly's favourite part was Ben's dance in a competition. The boys totally enjoyed the experience.

In the story, our hero Ben is bored beyond belief after he is made to stay at his grandma's house. She's the most boring grandma ever: all she wants to do is to play Scrabble, and eat cabbage soup.

But there are two things Ben doesn't know about his grandma; **1.** She was once an international jewel thief; **2.** All her life, she has been plotting to steal the Crown Jewels, and now she needs Ben's help!

AC

Ty Hafan lottery draw winners

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D922.

- **£2,000:** 347542.
- **The rollover was not won this week.**
- **£10:** 192571, 521847, 614095, 167188, 479137, 543535, 882187, 411602, 735925, 193409, 751486, 183599, 926640, 521332, 860019, 414836, 562463, 922361, 112978, 492990.
- **£5:** 491688, 766428, 758254, 852696, 517217, 429020, 896806, 357736, 984458, 385912, 663683, 813281, 436063, 653247, 798273, 709363, 509385, 271367, 385955, 388294, 739669, 693020, 308876, 888942, 193977, 395385, 818858, 494733, 169540, 781329, 988376, 410650, 232801, 736683, 550387, 428892, 808403, 236756, 528868, 678898, 126084, 402992, 628054, 639649, 654541, 818893, 287309, 336306, 223101, 368464, 438667, 321347, 383527, 475567, 496904, 728903, 369618, 1985168, 1985467, 1985270.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please telephone 029 2053 2300.

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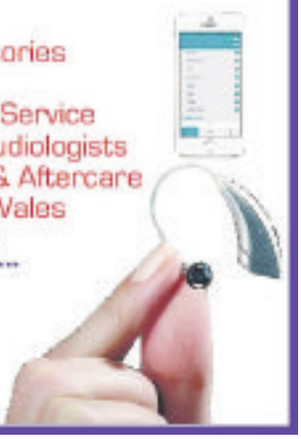

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PANDA 'THREEQUEL' FIZZES WITH PLEASING WIT AND ENERGY...

WHEN *Kung Fu Panda* was released in 2008, it was a pleasant surprise – comedic, with an underpinning of adult themes, and a range of animals doing kung fu; what more could you want!

It was followed by a sequel in 2011, and that was successful enough for a third instalment which goes by the rather unimaginative name of *Kung Fu Panda 3* (no need for a colon and portentous title here).

This time round, Po (voiced by Jack Black) is faced with his biggest challenge yet – reconnecting with his long-lost father Li (voiced by Bryan Cranston). The pair travel to meet a secret group of pandas, but when the villainous Kai (J K Simmons) sweeps across China defeating all kung fu masters, Po must train his fellow pandas in the ways of the martial arts...

It's a pretty common rule that by the time a franchise reaches its third instalment, the law of diminishing returns kicks in (if hasn't already by the second part!). On that basis, and coupled with the fact that it's been five years since the second outing for Po and friends, *Kung Fu Panda 3* should be a disappointing disaster, a cash-in on the goodwill and name value of the series.

That it's not is a pleasant surprise; that it's actually one of the most visually inventive and enjoyable animation films you are likely to see this year is an even more pleasant surprise.

After all, this has never been a franchise that has rested on its laurels, and the fact that third time around you are still left impressed by not just the gorgeous visuals, but the dexterity in the storytelling is a testament to the creative forces behind the scenes.

The building blocks of the series so far are in place early – Po is still, despite being rather good at kung fu,

by GARETH JAMIESON
Follow Screen Talk on Twitter – @GEMScreenTalk

as accident-prone and goofy as ever, a larger threat that requires him to 'bear' up and defend people is the main story thread as he learns valuable life lessons – but in this outing, it's the dressing over such staples that makes this a worthwhile viewing experience.

Visually, the film maintains the standards set by the other outings by being gorgeous to look at, a superb mix of faultless animation and an eye for the genre, the occasional use of split screens and anime-esque visuals fitting tonally – and looking amazing.

There is also, from an adult perspective, the satisfaction of seeing the film's 'message' delivered without being cloying or annoying is great; it doesn't talk down to the target audience and strikes a balance between the age ranges, delivering good gags and story.

The voice cast are all strong, even if the starry supporting cast of the likes of Angelina Jolie, Seth Rogen et al are sidelined through the plot's focus on Po (a cynic would suggest the talent weren't that keen to be involved, or budget cuts), but Jack Black is great as the titular panda, while Bryan Cranston as his father knows his way around a joke or two and offers the gravitas needed for such a role.

If Kate Hudson's Mei Mei being given too little screen time is a dampener, then it's made up for with J K Simmons' wonderfully-villainous Kai, a memorable villain who strikes a neat line between real malevolence and a snarky self-deprecating personality, brought wonderfully to life by the actor.

By the film's end there is every chance (subject to box-office receipts) that there'll be a fourth outing for the Kung Fu Panda and his chums – but as long as the films continue to be as satisfying and enjoyable as this one, that can only be a good thing!

VERDICT: A film that is more energised and exciting than many 'threequels', *Kung Fu Panda 3* is tremendous offering, fizzing with wit and energy. The voice cast are top-notch, and the film is delivered with a visual zeal that makes this one of the most thrilling animation films of the year. *Highly recommended*.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *Kung Fu Panda* (2008), *How To Train Your Dragon 2* (2014).

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Morris Minor for Marie Curie

IN September the National Morris Minor Owners' Club is celebrating its 40th anniversary by taking a 1962 Morris Minor on a trip through the UK.

The branch kicked off its fundraising on Mother's Day and will be at a number of classic car shows throughout the summer.

It will attempt to visit all 58 of the club branches in the UK, as well as all nine of the Marie Curie hospices. The car will be at Holme Towers on Thursday, September 29.

Pictured are cars from the south Wales branch, at the Penarth hospice.

What's on and where...

Cowbridge Art Society

ON Thursday, March 17 the society has an illustrated lecture on 'A Personal View of Modern Art' by Abergavenny artist Daniel Williams.

The following week is the annual presentation of the Keith James Trophy from paintings by society members.

The society meets each Thursday 7pm – 9pm at Old Hall, Cowbridge and visitors and new members are most welcome (occasional visitor's fee £3).

For details of the society's activities see www.cowbridgeartsociety.com.

Councillors' surgery

LLANTWIT First Independent councillors will be holding a surgery at the Heritage Centre, Town Hall, Llantwit Major, this Saturday (March 19) from 9.30am – 11.30am.

Residents who have any issue to raise are welcome to attend.

Ward councillors' surgeries

THE Labour Vale and town councillors for Buttrills and Court wards in Barry – Bronwen Brooks, Pamela Drake, Jeff Evans and Stuart Egan – will hold their monthly advice surgery on Saturday, March 19, from 10am – 11am in the small community room of Barry Library, Kings Square.

No appointment is necessary.

Gibbonsdown surgery

Vale councillors for the Gibbonsdown ward, Couns Margaret Wilkinson and Rob Curtis, will hold a surgery on Saturday, March 19 in the Gibbonsdown community centre between 11am and noon.

Local residents with council-related problems are invited to come along.

If you are unable to get to the surgery, call 01446 73628.

Easter fayre

ON Saturday, March 19, the Pencoed Town and District Twinning Association's fair will include a table top sale with many different items on offer, including wood turning and carving, jewellery, Easter cards, jams and chutneys, and cheeses Refreshments will be available.

The day will also feature a raffle, with main prizes a round of golf for four people at Vale Resort national course (donated by Mercedes-Benz Bridgend) and a Sony digital camera (donated by Sony TEC).

The event will be opened by Huw Irranca-Davies MP at 11am at Pencoed Miners' Welfare Hall in the centre of Pencoed, with plenty of parking.

Entry is free.

Spring fair in Penarth

THE Windsor Bowling Club, Penarth will hold their spring fair at the clubhouse in Robinswood Crescent this Saturday, March 19.

Starting at 10am, entrance is £1 to include coffee or tea and a hot cross bun. There will be cake, bottle and plant stalls, guessing games, a raffle, bran tub, and bric-a-brac.

All are welcome for a morning of fun and relaxation.

Valeways guided walks

ON Sunday, March 20 there will be a Cardiff Bay to Castle river trip and walk; meet at Cardiff barrage car park (fee payable) at 9.10am, cost of boat trip £3.

On Wednesday, March 23 the Coffee Shop Strollers will meet at Romilly Cafe, Cold Knap at 10.30am.

Spring topic

THE next meeting of the Barry Floral Society will be held at St Nicholas Hall, St Nicholas Road, Barry, on Tuesday, March 22, when the demonstrator will be Mrs Kathy Lee of Whitland.

Big Screen

BIG Screen's next film for this season is *The Lady in the Van* (Cert 12A) on Thursday, March 24 at 7.30pm in the Town Hall.

It features Maggie Smith as the eccentric Miss Shepherd and Alex Jennings as author Alan Bennett.

Doors open 7.10pm. Tickets £4 (available in advance from the Town Clerk's office, or on the door).

Cancer Research fundraiser

ON Saturday, April 2 the Hi-Tide Hotel in Porthcawl will host a Cancer Research UK spring lunch; tickets £8 from Diane Jones on 01656 784762 and members of the committee.

History of mining

History of mining

THE next meeting of the Bridgend branch of the Glamorgan Family History Society will take place at the Len Evans Centre, Heol Persondy, Aberkenfig CF39 9RF, on March 21. *The subject is Afan Argoed and the history of mining in the Afan Valley. Doors open 7pm; talk begins at 7.30pm. All welcome.*

Young people with disabilities put their photos on show

BEECHWOOD College in Sully has organised a photography exhibition at the Norwegian Church, Cardiff Bay, this week ending on Sunday (March 20).

Young people with disabilities were asked to photograph their communities and try to capture what they mean to them.

There are three categories – portrait, still life and landscape.

"The winners of each category won cash prizes and are having their works professionally printed and sent to their schools," a spokeswoman said.

See http://www.norwegianchurchcardiff.com/content.asp?nav=2,6&parent_directory_id=1&id=292&Language=.

Charity calls for donations

THE Dogs Trust's Cowbridge shop is looking for donations of unwanted items – from household ornaments and clothing to electrical items and DVDs.

The sale proceeds will go towards caring for the 17,000 dogs awaiting new homes at Dogs Trust's network of 20 rehoming centres across the UK, including Bridgend.

Unwanted items can be left at the Dogs Trust Cowbridge charity shop 62 Eastgate, Cowbridge, Vale of Glamorgan, CF71 7AB between 9am – 5pm Monday to Saturday; call 01446 774423 or email charityshops@dogstrust.org.uk for further information.

Easter services

THE 10 Methodist churches in the Vale of Glamorgan have the following services and events during Holy Week and Easter.

Holy Tuesday: 2pm, Crossway, Barry – Reflective Service with Holy Communion; 7pm Barry Uniting Church, the Waterfront Church – reading Mark's Gospel.

Maundy Thursday: 7pm, Cadoxton – Holy Communion. 7.30pm, St David's, Barry – Holy Communion. 7.30pm, Barry Uniting Church – Holy Communion at Trinity Presbyterian Church and 7.30pm Eastbrook – Holy Communion.

Good Friday: 10.30am – 12.30pm The Gathering Place, St Athan – children's Holy Week event. 10.30am, Cadoxton – open church for prayer. 10am Walk of Witness in Penarth (to be confirmed). 11am Trinity – Stations of the Cross. 12 noon Churches of Barry Walk of Witness, start from Knap Gardens. 2pm – 3pm, St David's – open church for prayer and silence. 2pm – 3pm, The Gathering Place – Reflective Service. 4.30pm, Dinas Powys Churches Together Walk of Witness, from War memorial.

Easter Day: 6.30am, Penarth cliff top – sunrise Service.

There are Easter Day Services with Holy Communion at all circuit churches, contact your local church for times and more details. Call 01446 406262 or visit Facebook page, Vale of Glamorgan Methodist Circuit, or sites google.com/site/valeofglamorganmethodists.

Experience the Burn in this Adventure Spectacular

IT'S the 2016 Year of Adventure in Wales, and nothing says adventure quite like a Burn Series event in the picturesque surroundings of Margam Park on Saturday, April 2.

Attracting all levels and abilities there are two distances to choose from: the Mini Burn – consisting of a 3km run, 1km kayak and 10km mountain bike, allows adults and juniors to compete together as a team. It's the only event of it's kind in the UK and consequently has gained many fans.

Among the Burn supporters is previous world champion adventure racer Nick Gracie, who has competed in the Mini Burn many times before with his nine-year-old son, George.

"It's been a great father and son bonding experience. George has loved the races and can't wait for the next one. It has also encouraged him to do more running and cycling as he wants to go a little faster next time."

The second distance, the Burn, the ultimate fitness challenge is a 10km run, 1km kayak and 40km mountain bike orienteer.

The day is part funded by the Welsh Government and as it is the Year of Adventure in Wales, there will also be some additional adventure challenges to test both competitors and inquisitive spectators.

Supporting the event will be live entertainment from The Wave radio station and Llantrisant-based up and coming band The Broadcasts, who have recently been featured on BBC Radio Wales.

ITV Wales' Coast and Country presenter, Andrew Price, will also be providing some bushcraft demonstrations and sponsors 9Bar and More Drinks will be on hand to provide all competitors with free samples.

Organiser Maria Leijerstam who holds two world first records, said: "I have designed these races to ensure competitors will be able sample the excitement of adventure racing in a fun and friendly way and share the buzz that I feel about the sport."

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EASTER IS A TIME OF JOY AND FUN AT HIGH STREET

THE dark, damp days of winter are behind us – and now the light evenings are arriving, the sun is glittering, and Easter is almost upon us.

In High Street, Barry, that means the Easter bonnet parade.

Where, you may wonder, does this much loved tradition come from? Well, the idea was that at this time of year people should wear some new clothes, so Easter finery – and extravagant bonnets – became a tradition.

Bob Armstrong of High Street traders told The GEM: "Our Easter Bonnet parade will take place on Saturday, March 26.

"There will be three categories, so everyone, no matter how young or how old, can take part."

Of course, there will be prizes for the winners.

Bob added: "The categories will be nought to five, six to 11 and 12 to 100 and over!

"We're hoping that Alun Cairns and Jane Hutt will act as judges.

"Mums and dads and children should assemble outside Habanas in High Street at 10.45am.

"The bonnet parade will start at 11am, and will make its way up and down High Street."

The bonnet parade always makes for a colourful spectacle and seeing the young children in their Easter hats is a joy to see.

Fay Blakeley's gift boutique Homemade Wales located on Island Road always has something that little bit different – including Barry Island cushions! Fay has a passion for promoting handcrafted Welsh products that benefit the local economy and the wider one in Wales.

Barry's West End has thousands of gifts – so don't rely on an Easter egg!

A trip to High Street, Barry can make Easter extra special.

Anyone who knows anything about High Street shopping realises that the business owners always make the effort to provide something that little bit different.

Many people find the Christmas build-up something of a marathon – but strangely Easter is a sprint, with loved-ones often relying on the simple gift of an Easter egg.

Surely it's nice to get a memorable gift – and High Street businesses will inspire you.

Take **Aspirations Florist** at 9 High Street which can provide a wonderful bouquet; or create a flower arrangement to brighten your home over the festive period.

Homemade Wales on Island Road is the quintessential 'alternative' gift boutique.

It specialises in hand-crafted items and housewares.

Fay Blakeley, the owner, said: "All the stock is crafted in Wales and made by hand. Customers love the fact that everything is really different."

Barry Island cushions in seaside pastel colours; vintage personalised silver spoons; aromatic candles with the fragrances in bara brith, Welsh cake, jasmine, passion fruit and coconut; the Welshification of greeting cards with designs like *Robinson Croeso*, *Cwtch Me If You Can* and *When Barry met Sully*; ceramics; hand-printed wrapping paper; slate love spoons – there's so much that's worth a browse.

Fay's business benefits the local economy and Welsh crafts people too.

For more information go to: *Facebook.com/homemadewales*.

Even from outside **The Smelly Shop** at 100 High Street it smells wonderful as the gorgeous scents escape through the front door.

The shop, jointly owned by Emma and Claire, sells luxury handcrafted soaps and bath bombs, home fragrance soya bean candles, gift sets, cushions, bags, scarves and home accessories.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 23

Doctor Bob's Balloons has a colourful display.

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Izmir Restaurant: A FRIENDLY WELCOME AND A GREAT MEAL

GURKAN and Ali of the Izmir Turkish and Greek Restaurant, pride themselves on a great reputation for providing a friendly welcome – along with a delicious, wide-ranging menu.

The Izmir Turkish and Greek Restaurant at 19 Broad Street, Barry, will be providing a warm welcome to its customers over the Easter period.

There are hot, cold and seafood starters, fish dishes, a selection of main courses, chargrilled and vegetarian dishes and salads.

The menu also has an invaluable 'vegetarian, nut, dairy and gluten' guide for customers who have to be careful about what they eat.

The restaurant is spacious and includes two dining areas.

Why not treat the family to an evening at the Izmir Restaurant, and save yourself the cooking?

The opening hours are Tuesday to Saturday, lunch: 12noon to 2.30pm; evening: 5.30pm until late. Sunday: 12.30pm to 9pm. ***To book, call 01446 700050.***

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Making your Easter extra special

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 22

Butterflies is famed for its popular Yankee Candles, but it's easy to spend half an hour browsing through the full array of gift products.

There are soaps, jewellery, scented bath bombs, ornaments, cushions, moisturisers, Yankee Candles (of course) Village Candles, make up items, gift sets and hampers and more!

The owner Jodie said: "On April 9, we will be celebrating our eighth anniversary and there will be a special event – so clients should keep a special eye out for that."

For even more on Butterflies, go to: *www.facebook.com/Butterflies-Barry-169891353071770/.*

So take a stroll along Broad Street, Market Street, Island Road and High Street this Easter – there's a gift or service for everyone, and you can be guaranteed that extra special customer service.

Tony Hopkins of popular local butchers Vic Hopkins & Son, advises customers to put in orders by Wednesday, March 23 for the new season's Welsh spring lamb. For more information, tel 01446 735265.

Butterflies is a palace of gifts – over two floors, with Yankee Candles among the most popular and enduring.

Gorgeous brands on offer at Bryl's Boutique

ABOVE: Ted Baker, available at Bryl's Boutique.

THE rails in Bryl's Boutique are filled with gorgeous new spring-summer collections from fantastic brands such as Ted Baker, French Connection, Great Plains, Joules, Darling, Masai, Sandwich and Yaya.

Teamed with Ugg footwear, a pair of Fit Flops or a gorgeous handbag, there really is something to suit all ages and purses at Bryl's.

Claire at The Smelly Shop has wonderful gift sets for Easter.

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The Food for Thought deli at 12 High Street, founded by Dave and Lynda Keeble is a Barry institution. Now run by son Nathan and his wife Sarah it has a great, friendly atmosphere and strives to supply the best foods from around Wales and further afield. Treat yourself to specialist cheeses, home cooked meats, fresh made bread, baguettes, rolls, paninis, sandwiches, cakes and sweet bites to go with your perfect baguette, spices and herbs. To cut a long story short, it is a must visit for Easter provisions! www.foodforthoughtbarry.co.uk; tel 01446 735711.

Jade boutique has summer specials for your wardrobe!

LEFT: Jade ladies' clothes shop in Barry has spring and summer stock arriving from top designers like Frank Lyman

FRANK LYMAN is one of Jade boutique's most popular designers. New stock is arriving every day for your new spring and summer wardrobe!

Jane, the owner of Jade boutique, said: "I'll soon be celebrating the first anniversary of moving into my new premises and want to thank all my valued customers for their support."

Jade BOUTIQUE
New Season Stock Arriving Daily
ADESSO SANDALS have now arrived
Happy Easter to all my customers
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Go to the Barry GEM for the latest stories and breaking news... www.barry-today.co.uk

Walkers go 'over the stiles or not!'

ON a bright sunny morning, 11 Valeways walkers set off from The Pelican to climb to the top of Ogmore Down. It was a steep climb but on reaching the top, the views opened out across the Bristol Channel to north Devon and Exmoor.

Passing golfers on Southerndown golf course, the walkers dropped down into the village of St Bride's, passing the church of St Bridget on the way.

Turning right, they headed for the now closed (unfortunately) Farmers Arms and then walked across fields to the top of Pant y Slade and walked down the valley to Dunraven Bay, where a stop was made.

They then climbed the steps to the top of the cliff heading for Ogmore by Sea. In the sunshine, it was a glorious walk along the cliff top. A red kite soared overhead and Chris pointed out 350 million-year-old fossilised coral in the rocks.

Turning inland to trek up the Ogmore valley, the group walked through the sand dunes to cross the road by Portobello House. A heron flying over was being mobbed by gulls who clearly were unhappy about its presence!

The group climbed a footpath running parallel with the road but higher up, with extensive views over Merthyr Mawr. A short walk along this path brought them back to the pub for welcome food and drink. Many thanks to The Pelican for their hospitality and the use of their car park.

CAROLYN GULLY

TALES OF THE STEAM ENGINE TORNADO...

THE Barry Men's Forum chairman welcomed new member Barry Franks, who has recently moved to the town from Kent.

John Rees-Davies then introduced the speaker for the day Mr Mike Wilcock, whose hobby is filming steam engines.

His collection of video is immense and he presently has 160 clips on You Tube with 820,000 viewers at the last count.

The compilation of film he presented was mainly about the steam engine *Tornado*, which is a replica of the original engine and took 19 years to build.

It was completely manufactured in the UK, except for the boiler, which was produced in Germany, and has been the only part of this recreation to breakdown, requiring it to be returned to the manufacturers for a major upgrade.

Watching it being officially named by Prince Charles in 2009, it caused members mirth when, during his speech, he and Camilla were completely obliterated and drowned out by steam and smoke suddenly belched from the engine.

Mike had been privileged to ride aboard in the cab of the *Tornado*, on the West Somerset Line, and had film of his experience.

What surprised him most was the fireman continually stoking the fire, without a break. Such foot-plate experiences are now largely restricted due to health and safety, but the interest is so great, that on *Tornado's* two weeks on the Somerset Line, it paid for itself in the first two days.

The next meeting is today, March 17, when Mr Paul Haley will be talking about Barry Regeneration. New members are very welcome at £2 per meeting, which includes light refreshments, starts at 10.15am and finishes by noon. The Barry Men's Forum meets at the Trinity Presbyterian Church Hall, every Thursday morning.

For further information, contact the chairman Peter Westcott on 02920 594881.

PMW

Vale roadworks

ROADWORKS: Junction 34 Miskin Interchange. A4050 Port Road, from junction with Culverhouse Cross to its junction with Nant Isaf, Wenvoe.

Temporary traffic control: A4055 Harbour Road, Barry (the Causeway). A4055 Harbour Road, Barry (bottom of Ship Hill). Paget Road, Barry Island at its junction with Clive Road and Plymouth Road. Stirling Road junction with Lakin Drive, Barry (near the community centre). Leckwith Road, Leckwith near The Lodge. Broad Street, Barry near the One Stop Shop.

Road closure: Clive Road, Barry Island at the junction with the access road to Barry Island overflow car park. Solent Road, Barry.

The first team of willing volunteers, with Keith Hatton left and Chris Franks, chair, on right.

Dinas Powys call for library volunteers

LIBRARY volunteer open day got off to a flying start at the Dinas Powys Library after the steering committee of the community library arranged to formally sign up volunteers who will be trained and have the assistance of a peripatetic librarian.

Dinas Powys is one of five community libraries to be created which include Sully, Rhoose, St Athan and Wenvoe.

The Vale cabinet has accepted the business case of the Dinas Powys steering group and intends to enter into legal agreements with the group.

Coun Chris Franks, chair of the steering group, said: "We are making steady progress, but there is a great deal of work to be undertaken. It looks as though the short-term funding arrangements are in place and we have a large team of people willing to assist.

"A constitution is being agreed along with the necessary policies and training. The existing book stock will be retained and refreshed as necessary along with the continuation of the computers.

"We do face challenges and we are fortunate to have a great deal of community support. We will be having more opportunities for people who have expressed an interest to formally sign up. Please contact Keith Hatton on 07749825751 or email khatton263@btinternet.com. New faces welcome."

Ikea takes on young Barry apprentices

TWO young people from Barry have become Ikea's first retail apprentices in Wales.

Andrew Boulton (20) and Jemma Deverell (22) have been recruited by Itec Skills and Employment, to join Ikea Cardiff.

The duo and three other apprentices, Dale Edwards (18) from Llanrumney, Ryan Taylor (18) from Llanedeyrn, and Tyrell Mottram, (21) from Ely, will receive training and support in-store from one of Itec's specialist assessors.

Praise for western Vale Paramedic Pilot

AT a meeting with the head of operations for Cardiff and Vale Welsh Ambulance Service, Jane Hutt AM was told about the success of the western Vale paramedic pilot.

It covers Llantwit Major, Cowbridge, Rhoose and other Vale villages, and is part of the response to bring down ambulance waiting times in the difficult to reach rural areas of the Vale.

Ms Hutt had worked closely with Coun Gwyn John and WAST to improve ambulance waiting times in the western Vale, and they were both delighted when "years of campaigning brought the dedicated rapid response paramedic service to Llantwit Major".

She added that they are following up plans to co-locate ambulance, police and fire services in Llantwit Major.

NEWS IN BRIEF

ED EVANS FOUNDATION BALL AND VALE WALK

IT is 10 years since the Ed Evans Foundation was set up, and a charity ball will be held at the Cardiff City football stadium on April 30.

Tickets cost £55 per person which includes a three course meal, wine on the table and dancing to Big Mac's Wholly Soul Band. For tickets, contact Sue on 01656 890217.

Ed started the charity in 2006 after being diagnosed with a brain tumour, raising £35,000 before he lost his battle in October 2007; to date, the foundation has raised £180,000 for Cancer Research Wales, The Brain Tumour Charity and other worthy causes.

The annual walk will take place on Easter Monday, March 28 starting from The Plough & Harrow, Monknash; registration takes place from 9.30am.

There will be a long walk and a short walk. Details are available on website www.edevansfoundation.co.uk or call 01656 890217.

VALE AM'S SURGERY

Vale AM Jane Hutt will be holding a surgery from 10-11am on Saturday, March 19, at Barry Citizens Advice Bureau 119 Broad Street CF62 7TZ; no appointment necessary.

Gladstone School pupils are very welcome guests

Pupils enjoy Welsh cakes, squash and a chat after their performance.

St David's Day guests – Hafod staff, and resident Jill welcomed colleagues from the Vale Council.

Martin Rees, vice chair, Hafod Care Board, thoroughly enjoyed the event.

A PROJECT that brings pupils from Gladstone Primary School together with residents from Golau Caredig extra care housing scheme in Barry, is delivering great benefits for all involved.

Pupils visit every Tuesday and last week, children from the reception classes were delighted to celebrate St David's Day with some of the residents along with guests from Hafod Care and the Vale of Glamorgan Council.

The children sang and performed traditional Welsh folk dancing for the residents who joined in with a rousing rendition of the national anthem. All enjoyed a chat and Welsh cakes afterwards. A fabulous collage of a Welsh dragon was created by the residents and children, who shared lots of fun and laughter over their scissors, paper and glue.

Sam Marks, the assistant head teacher, who accompanies the children each week.

She said: "The last few weeks have been wonderful. The visits are such happy times with lots of smiling and laughing. It is wonderful to see such a meaningful relationship being developed. Our children are benefitting greatly from the visits and the school would love to further develop this relationship in consultation with the residents' committee."

Irene Watkins, managing director of Hafod Care, is thrilledat.that the partnership is going so well. She said: "From the outset we wanted Golau Caredig to be part of the local community and these visits clearly bring such joy to all concerned. Our residents' committee and staff have developed a fantastic programme of events we are working with local providers to offer more activities and services that will benefit both our residents and local people."

In recognition of this the development scheme has been shortlisted for the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) Awards 2016, Wales in the Community Benefit Category.

Coun Stuart Egan, Deputy Leader of the Vale of Glamorgan Council attended the St David's Day event and enjoyed a tour of the building along with colleagues from the council and Hafod.

He said: "I always receive a warm welcome when I visit Golau Caredig, and thoroughly enjoyed the St David's Day event. Since it opened last year, I have watched Golau Ceredig establish itself as a focal point of the community

"As Older Peoples' Champion for the Vale of Glamorgan Council, I see a real benefit for the residents, their families and the area as a whole, in continuing to establish such strong links to the local community."

WHAT'S ON /*In brief*

Paradise regained

A talk on the renovation of a unique water garden will be given on Wednesday, March 23, at 7.30pm, when Cowbridge Physic Garden welcomes Helen John, of the National Botanic Garden of Wales, to the St Quentin's Suite at the Bear Hotel, High Street, Cowbridge.

Helen will show how the five-year project to reconstruct this Regency treasure is progressing and the importance it has in the overall ecology of the garden. ***Tickets are available at the door, £5.***

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It's a Stitch-up at new exhibition!

ABOVE: *Jane Hutt AM opens the 'Barry In Stitches' exhibition.*

RECENTLY, a new exhibition opened at the Travellers' Gallery, Barry Station.

The exhibition, entitled, 'Barry in Stitches' has been set up by Barry Hookers crochet and craft group, who meet on a weekly basis at Coffee Cove coffee and wine bar, Barry Island.

The group has been running now for almost three years, and having outgrown its original venue at Barry library, now has 67 members.

The most recent work is a group effort, and consists of ideas about Barry from the group. It is worked in different ways including crochet, sewing, quilting, knitting and cross stitch.

The exhibition was opened by Vale AM Jane Hutt, who said: "I was delighted to open the Barry in Stitches exhibition at the Mind in the Vale Gallery, and to donate one of the beautiful canvases to MENCAP to support Barry project worker Sian Rodgers."

The other two canvases will be donated to Mind in the Vale who host the Travellers' Gallery in their cafe at Barry Station, and to the RNLI who will place it in their shop on Barry Island when the exhibition is over.

The craft group meets every Wednesday at Coffee Cove, and new members are always welcome.

Police concern at traffic in Dinas Powys

Mill Road, outside St Peter's Church.

LOCAL county councillors have welcomed an offer from the police to join them in their operations to reduce traffic speeds along Mill Road, Dinas Powys.

It follows complaints by residents and councillors about traffic dangers.

At the request of councillors, the Vale highways department recorded that, in less than an hour, there were 166 vehicles, all of which were seen to be free flowing. A total of 68 of them were recorded travelling in excess of the 30 mph limit, 10 of which were travelling above the Association of Chief Police Officers' threshold guidelines for prosecution.

Coun Keith Hatton said that Plaid Cymru councillors would be delighted to join the police along Mill Road.

He went on: "The police have been working with the highways department to assess the statistics relating to the speed of traffic. In a short early morning period a significant number of vehicles were driven above the speed that would trigger prosecutions."

Coun Val Hartrey said it was a serious issue and too many motorists were behaving irresponsibly. "We all know that some drivers like to speed along this route and then up Penyturnpike, especially at busy periods along Cardiff Road."

Apprentice Chloe making her mark!

TO celebrate National Apprenticeship Week (March 14 – 18), Arriva Trains Wales is this week highlighting the achievements of its young and talented apprentices who are seeking to gain industry-recognised qualifications with the business, including 18-year-old Chloe Thomas from Barry.

She was recruited into Arriva's engineering department on a four-year apprentice contract in September 2015. Chloe will now be training for an HNC in engineering and will qualify to become a craft interchangeable maintenance technician after her four-year-training.

She is also studying for a qualification in electrical engineering at Coleg y Cymoedd – as the only female engineer at Arriva's Canton maintenance depot.

"It was really daunting at first going into a workplace and profession that is considered male-dominant, but everyone made me feel welcome and gave me the chance to prove myself as a good worker," Chloe said.

"The apprenticeship with Arriva Trains Wales is my first full-time job. There's a lot to take in and learn but I'm enjoying every minute. One of the most enjoyable parts of the job is the varied nature of the work. Every day is different with another challenge to face."

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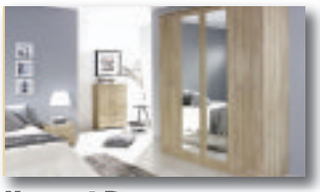
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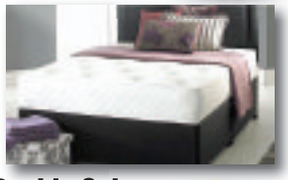
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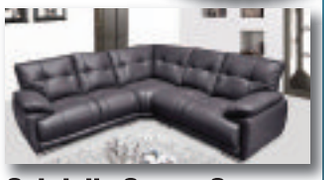
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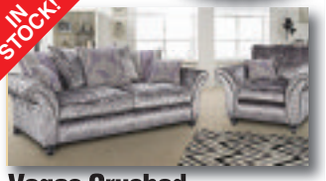
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Children's Commissioner helps Vale AM's spring breakfast to celebrate young people in the Vale

Spring Breakfast.

THE Vale AM, Jane Hutt, held her 17th spring breakfast in Barry on March 10 at the Cardiff and Vale College Glamorgan Suite, where Professor Sally Holland, Children's Commissioner for Wales, was the guest speaker – as this year's theme was young people.

She congratulated the Vale Youth Forum on their "excellent engagement in promoting youth participation in the Vale".

The AM added: "With representation from Barry Youth Action, Llantwit Major's Youth Council, the deputy Vale Youth Mayor, Mencap, Vale People First and St Richard Gwyn and Bryn Hafren school councils, this was a wonderful opportunity for young people to discuss their views with the Children's Commissioner.

"The breakfast was prepared and served by a fantastic student team from the college, who also raised funds for their chosen charities with a raffle.

"I would like to thank everyone who attended the spring breakfast and all those who made it such a significant event."

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Local children learn that science can be fun at Dow Corning, Barry

DURING British Science Week, the Dow Corning site at Barry organised science activities for 250 children from eight local primary schools.

From March 7-10, these nine and ten year olds participated in memorable hands-on science experiments, encouraging them to learn about the fun side of science.

Each year since 1997, more than 200 local schoolchildren converge on the Dow Corning site in Barry in the Vale for a week of specialised learning where they had the opportunity to become 'scientists for the day,' as part of Dow Corning's participation in British Science Week in the United Kingdom. The aim of these activities is to encourage more children into science careers by giving them a love for science while still in primary school.

The scientific discovery this year centered on handmade products for the bath. The children were introduced to chemistry as they learned how to mix solid and liquid chemicals to create bath bombs and bubble bath. Each pupil was able to make his/her own choice of scents and colours for a uniquely fragranced bubble bath, which they then took home in a bottle they decorated themselves.

The programme remains a focal point in the schools' calendar and this year had support from the Mayor of the Vale of Glamorgan, Coun Fred Johnson, who joined in the fun with the local Cadoxton Primary School.

'Make better use of beach huts' – *Plaid call*

Left to right, Couns Nic Hodges, Shirley Hodges, Ian Johnson and Steffan Wiliam.

SCHOOLS should have beach hut access to teach local children about Barry's coastline heritage, say Plaid Cymru councillors for Barry Island, Nic Hodges and Steffan Wiliam.

They have called for better use of the Barry Island beach huts and a business plan to "ensure maximum use and value for money from the investment".

Both councillors spoke at the Vale Council's economy and environment committee which looked at the first year of operation since the beach huts were opened for hire in spring 2015.

They stated that in the first year of operation, the busiest month for beach hut hires was August, when they were hired for a total of 136 days – about 20 per cent of the total capacity. However, in the months of November and February, not a single beach hut was hired to the public.

Coun Steffan Wiliam said: "There needs to be a proper business plan for the beach huts. We have to make it as easy as possible for people to book and gain access to the huts – whether by cash or by app on their smartphone.

"The beach huts should have proper facilities – light, electricity and water.

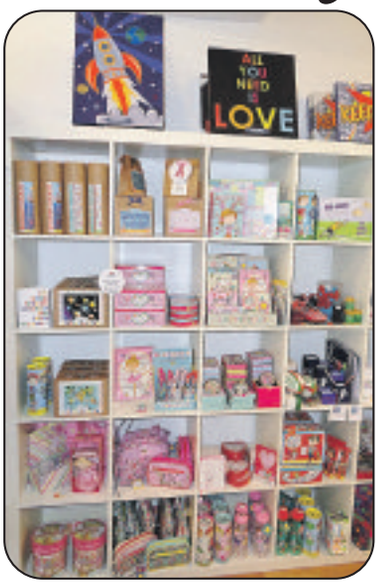
Coun Nic Hodges said: "The beach huts are a clearly iconic part of Barry Island, well photographed and seen all over social media, but I worry that we have missed the opportunity and novelty of the beach huts to reach new audiences and bring them to Barry Island."

THRIFT SHOP CLOSING

THRIFT Shop in St Athan will close for Easter at 1.30pm on Wednesday, March 23 and reopen at 10am on Monday, April 11. We wish all our customers a very Happy Easter.

Spring Cowbridge Feature

Spring is on the way... and Cowbridge is ready to welcome the new season



ABOVE: Just some of the wide range of stock at The Pencil Case in Eastgate.

LEFT: The Physic garden is one of the town's most popular places to visit – either to learn more about the medicinal plants, or simply to relax and take a break!

SPRING is almost here – although given the unpredictable weather of the last six months it is best to say that with a degree of caution.

It does, however, look as if the long season of mild but very stormy weather has moved on, and optimistic sunshine is finally drying out those sodden lawns.

The arrival of a new season finds traders in Cowbridge revved up ready to go, with new product lines and old favourites on the shelf, ready to keep the customer satisfied.

The town's virtues are pretty constant, and visitors can, as usual, enjoy the relaxed atmosphere, and the wide variety of shops – many on the High Street and many more tucked away in the nooks and crannies of the various idiosyncratic side streets.

One of Cowbridge's big plus points has always been the high proportion of owner-managed businesses, with the shopkeeper being directly responsible for sourcing the stock, rather than just ticking the boxes imposed from head office.

It means that shoppers who want to find something different can find a soulmate on the other side of the counter!

Of course, shopping is more than just filling the carrier bags and heading home. Everyone needs a relaxing break – whether that be a coffee, a drink, a snack or a meal – and Cowbridge has all the bases covered.

With its mix of cafes, traditional pubs, fashionable bars and restaurants, it will take a long time to run out of choice – and the keen competition does what competition is supposed to do – push up standards.

As a *bona fide* market town (the livestock market is still busy every Tuesday morning) Cowbridge caters for country dwellers and townies alike, and one place that is decidedly 'rural' is the Arthur John clothing store on the High Street.

Here you will find a wide range of stock, featuring two names that are synonymous with country living – Barbour and Joules.

The town has a strong sense of community, too, and some businesses relish their close ties with local people. One such is La Mercerie, in the Old Mason's Yard, where Jean Tait has a huge stock of yarn, patterns and everything you need when it comes to knitting and crocheting.

Jean invites experts in the field to run workshops and meet locals who are keen to learn new techniques, and the next one is on April 3, when Norwegian knitwear designer Anniken Allis will be holding a knitting course.

Another visitor coming soon, although details are still to be finalised, is Eirwen Godfrey, who runs the hand-dying company, KnitWitches.

Jean also has a regular local group who meet on a Wednesday evening (6pm to 8pm) to compare notes and share technical knowledge.

La Mercerie stocks a large range of yarns and patterns.

Just outside the town, on the road to Llantwit Major, is Forest Products, a business that is used to gearing itself up for the arrival of spring.

The manager, Richard Belby, said: "This year is slightly unusual, because it has been such a mild, wet winter that lawns are only now beginning to dry out.

"People haven't wanted to make a start on any projects because the ground was so wet. It's only now that people are ordering items like fence panels to repair the usual damage that winter storms bring about."

One line that is new this year at Forest Products is anti-slip decking – incorporating a 'gravel groove' to make things safer underfoot in wet weather.

The name 'Forest Products' does rather imply that they specialise in wood, and a popular line at this time of year are driveway gates, made to order in hard or soft wood.

Finally, another new line this year, one that Richard expects to be popular, is a range of timber planters.

A new season, new ideas and pet projects to make a start on. That's a good reason to head for Cowbridge.

Although, let's be fair. There's always a good reason to head off to this popular Vale town!

Forest Products
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Planters to enhance any outdoor environment

Anti slip decking in convenient 2.4m lengths.

Fence panels and gates

Closeboard fencing

Mon-Fri 8.00am-5pm, Sat 9am -12 noon
Crossways Estate, LLantwit Major Road, Cowbridge CF71 7LJ
Tel: 01446 773399
www.forest-products.co.uk
Head Office: Lightmoor Works, Cinderford Glos GL14 3HU (Mon-Fri only) Tel: 01594 822223

La Mercerie
Hand Knitting Yarns

Stockist of Sirdar, Debbie Bliss, Adriafil, Bergère de France, Rico and Navia yarns.

Hand dyed yarn from The Old Piggery.

Locally sourced yarn from Ty Mêl Smallholding.

• Wednesday afternoon & evening knitting club! • Full range of knitting accessories

Back to basics...Wool to touch and feel before you buy!

1 Penny Lane, COWBRIDGE
CF71 7EG - 01446 772055
Open Tuesday - Saturday 10am - 5pm

Arthur John & Co
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42 Enterprise Way Newport NP20 2AQ
Gwent Area : Baden Morgan 07970 119624

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Spring Cowbridge Feature

Cowbridge – THERE'S SO MUCH TO LEARN ABOUT ITS HISTORY

The recently restored plaque over the old river bridge.

AS you might expect from a town that can trace its history back to Roman times – there is so much to learn about Cowbridge.

The GEM asked Dick Buswell of the Cowbridge History Society to point out just a few points of interest that present-day browsers will come across if they take a closer look.....

How many towns do you know that:

• Has a river bridge parapet which carries a main road , but over no river?

• Has a church with a bell tower built for fortification?

• Has a mounting block in the High Street?

• Has a garden which grows plants for medicinal uses?

• Has a former grammar school which was designed by the architect who restored Llandaff Cathedral?

• Held prisoners from a French invasion near Fishguard, Pembrokeshire in 1797, on their way to London?

• Has a council chamber which was part of a former 'House of Correction' – i.e. a prison?

Cowbridge lies where the Romans' main road to the west crossed the River Thaw. Later, it was on the pilgrims' way to St David's and much later, it was on the coaching route from London to Fishguard and Ireland.

It has been for many centuries a market town and the place where Courts of Justice were held. Today, it still plays a prime role in servicing the rural Vale of Glamorgan with a wonderful variety of high-quality shops and restaurants and beautiful gardens in which to unwind.

If you would like to find the locations described above, the bridge parapet is opposite the Cowbridge Bookshop. Its stone plaque commemorating the inauguration of the bridge in 1911 is again legible, as it was recently restored by Cowbridge Charter Trust with funds provided by Cowbridge (ancient borough) with Llanblethian Town Council, the Waterloo Foundation, and by private donations.

It did once cross the river, but the river was moved in 1951!

The church is Holy Cross, and the mounting block can be found across the High Street from Sylvia Williams the Chemists, which is in the large double gabled property formerly 'The Great House' and the town house of the Carne Family of Nash Manor.

The Physic Garden has been planted to exemplify the healing and domestic plants that would have typically been used in former times.

The Cowbridge Grammar School was originally established in the early 1600s, but later rebuilt in 1847-52 by Pritchard.

Following an unsuccessful attempted invasion by the French near Carregwasted Point, during which eight Frenchmen drowned, 12 were killed, and one Welsh woman died in a pub when a pistol was accidentally fired, prisoners being taken to London were reputedly accommodated in The Bear.

The Town Hall was originally built as a 'House of Correction' in 1805. By 1829, a large new prison in Swansea had rendered it redundant. The building was converted by Isaiah Verity into today's Town Hall.

Cowbridge History Society celebrates on March 13 each year, the granting of the first town charter by Richard De Clare on March 13, 1274.

This year, the society marked the date with a visit to Llansannor Court, courtesy of Mr and Mrs Eddershaw, and to the adjacent medieval church of St Senwyr.

To find out more about the Cowbridge Local History Society, visit ***http://www.cowbridgehistorysociety.org***

ABOVE: Times long past in Cowbridge – when the river took a different course through the town

FLOORING THE COMPETITION!

SINCE opening in Cowbridge just over 18 months ago, Welsh flooring manufacturer, Broadleaf, has gone from strength-to-strength.

The showroom itself has been a great success, proving popular with professional and retail clients alike, for its extensive range of affordable, designer wood floors of all styles, and expert advice.

David Shewring, Broadleaf's Cowbridge showroom manager, explains: "Our customers are often amazed by the choice we can offer and how affordable a Broadleaf floor can be. Many are worried that buying a wood floor is quite technical, but soon realise that, with good expert advice, it is really quite simple."

With a reputation for innovation, it is not surprising that Broadleaf has a number of exciting new collections in the pipeline for 2016. These include a fabulous range of Smoked Oak floors in both plank and parquet options, a stunning collection of Versailles panels and trend-leading painted floors, with a choice of Little Green Paint Company and Farrow & Ball colours.

Visit the Broadleaf showroom at 71, Eastgate, Cowbridge to find out more.

Better than a chocolate egg!

WITH Easter fast approaching many of us will be looking to buy cards and gifts – and the Pencil Case on Eastgate is the ideal place to find something different.

"Many customers want to buy their children or grandchildren something special for Easter, and ideally something which will last longer than a chocolate egg!" owner Sally Stephenson told us.

"We have a fabulous selection of sensibly-priced gifts for children (and adults!) of all ages. Why not finish it off with an Easter-themed helium balloon and a Welsh or English 'Happy Easter' card?"

The Pencil Case can also help keep children entertained over the school holidays, whether at home or on a long journey. From colouring books, pens and pencils, to jigsaws, sticker books and art and craft supplies, you will be surprised just how many lovely things they now have in stock.

Sally said: "We are very excited about all the new products we have just had delivered, including the ever-popular Rachel Ellen range, brand new Top Model colouring books and lots of new stationery."

The Pencil Case is open from 9am – 5pm Monday to Saturday at 50 Eastgate, Cowbridge, CF71 7AB. 01446 772210, sally@thepencilcase.co.uk or www.thepencilcase.co.uk

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Stockist of:
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Outdoor Clothing • Ironmongery • Hardware • Cookware
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Beautiful Real Wood Floors, Doors & More
Unrivalled Choice. Award Winning Quality.
Plank & Parquet, Solid or Engineered
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CHOIR IN FULL VOICE FOR ST DAVID'S DAY!

Barry Male Voice Choir with musical director Dorothy Connell, deputy Mayor Coun Margaret Wilkinson, Consort Mrs Jayne Norman. Kneeling in front, pianist Dave Veale.

THE Deputy Mayor of the Vale of Glamorgan, Coun Margaret Wilkinson, together with her Consort Mrs Jayne Norman, were "delighted" to welcome Barry Male Voice Choir to the Civic Offices for a fundraising coffee morning on St David's Day.

The choir sang a selection of Welsh favourites, finishing with a rousing rendition of the Welsh national anthem.

The Vale of Glamorgan Council

(PROHIBITION AND RESTRICTION OF WAITING AND LOADING AND PARKING PLACES) (CIVIL ENFORCEMENT) (AMENDMENT) (NO 2) ORDER 2016

1. On the 15th March 2016 The Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 32, 35, 45, 46, 53 and 124 and Part IV of Schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and Part 6 of the Traffic Management Act 2004 and all other enabling powers made an Order the general effect of which is as described below:

2. The Order will come into operation on 21st March 2016 or on the dates that the signs and road markings are in place and be known as the "Vale of Glamorgan Council (Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting and Loading and Parking Places) (Civil Enforcement) (Amendment) (No 2) Order 2016"

3. A copy of the Order and plans showing the affected areas may be seen at the address shown below during normal office hours.

4. If you wish to question the validity of the Order or any provisions contained therein on the grounds that they are not within the powers conferred by the above Act or on the grounds that any requirement of the same or that any instrument made under it has not been complied with in relation to the Order, you may within six weeks from the 21st March 2016 apply to the High Court for this purpose.

The following Traffic Regulation Order is to be amended as follows:

Vale of Glamorgan Council (Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting and Loading and Parking Places) (Civil Enforcement) Order 2013

SCHEDULE 1

Proposed 'No Waiting at Any Time'

Burnham Avenue Sully – Map AV59

On the northern end of Burnham Avenue from its junction with South Road, in a southerly direction for approximately 20 metres on both sides of the junction.

Weston Avenue Sully – Map AW59

On the northern end of Weston Avenue from its junction with South Road, in a southerly direction for approximately 20 metres on both sides of the junction.

Dovedale Street Barry – Map AT53

At its junction with Court Road, in a southerly direction for a distance of 10 metres on both sides of the junction.

Court Road Barry – Map AT53

At its junction with Dovedale Street, in a westerly and easterly direction for a distance of 10 metres on both sides of the junction.

Maes y Ffynon Bonvilston – Map AC42

On both sides of the junction with the A48, approximately 10 metres in a northerly direction.

SCHEDULE 2

Proposed revocation (part) of No Waiting At Anytime

Colhugh Street Llantwit Major – AU22

On the eastern side just south of the junction with Spitzkop, in a southerly direction for a distance of approximately 20 metres, alongside property no.s 17 and 18.
Alongside properties 'Bronwydd' and 'The Court' for a distance of 20m
Alongside property 'Rose Cottage' for a distance of 10 metres

SCHEDULE 3

No Waiting at Any Time and Prohibition of Loading at Any Time

Bron-y-Mor Barry – Map BA48

On its north western side, from the western boundary wall of property no. 6, in a south westerly direction, for approximately 28m, to its junction with Birch Grove.

SCHEDULE 4

2 Hour Limited Waiting, Mon-Sat, 8am-6pm (No return within 2 hours)

Bron-y-Mor Barry (layby outside the shops) – Map BA48

On its north western side, from the western boundary wall of property no. 6, in a north easterly direction, for approximately 45m.

Dated this 17th day of March 2016.

M. E. Punter
Director of Environment & Housing
Vale of Glamorgan Council, The Alps,
Wenvoe CF5 6AA

Cyngor Bro Morgannwg 2016

GORCHYMYN (GORFODI SIFIL) (DIWYGIO) (RHIF 2) (GWAHARDD MANNAU AROS, LLWYTHO A PHARCIO A CHYFYNGU AR FANNAU AROS LLWYTHO A PHARCIO)

1. Ar 15 Mawrth 2016, yr oedd Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, gan arfer ei bwerau o dan Adrannau 1, 2, 3, 4, 32, 35, 45, 46, 53, a 124 a Rhan IV o Atodlen 9 Deddf Rheoli Traffig Ffyrdd 1984, a Rhan 6 Deddf Rheoli Traffig 2004 a phob pŵer galluogi arall, wedi gwneud Gorchymyn y mae ei effaith wedi'i disgrifio isod:

2. Daw'r Gorchymyn i rym ar 21 Mawrth 2016 neu bryd bynnag y bydd yr holl arwyddion a marciau ffordd yn barod. Fe'i hadwaenir fel 'Gorchymyn (Gorfodi Sifil) (Diwygio) (Rhif 2) (Gwahardd Mannau Aros, Llwytho a Pharcio a Chyfyngu ar Fannau Aros, Llwytho a Pharcio) Cyngor Bro Morgannwg 2016'.

3. Cewch weld copi o'r Gorchymyn a'r cynllun sy'n dangos y mannau y bydd y Gorchymyn yn effeithio arnynt, yn y cyfeiriad isod yn ystod oriau arferol swyddfa.

4. Os hoffech ddadlau'n erbyn dilysrwydd y Gorchymyn neu'i ddarpariaethau am na chredwch fod gan y ddeddf uchod bŵer i'w gweithredu, neu am y tybiwch eu bod yn methu â chydymffurfio â gofynion y ddeddf uchod neu un o'i hofferynnau, bydd gennych chwe wythnos o 21 Mawrth 2016 i wneud cais i'r Uchel Lys i'r diben hwnnw.

Bydd y Gorchymyn Rheoli Traffig canlynol yn cael ei ddiwygio fel a ganlyn:

Gorchymyn (Gorfodi Sifil) (Gwahardd Mannau Aros, Llwytho a Pharcio a Chyfyngu ar Fannau Aros, Llwytho a Pharcio) Cyngor Bro Morgannwg 2013.

ATODLEN 1

Cynigiwyd gweithredu gorchymyn sy'n 'gwahardd cerbydau rhag aros ar unrhyw adeg'

Burnham Avenue Sili – Map AV59

Ar ben gogleddol Burnham Avenue o'r gyffordd â South Road, am oddeutu 20 medr i gyfeiriad y de ar ddwy ochr y gyffordd.

Weston Avenue Sili – Map AW59

Ar ben gogleddol Weston Avenue, o'r gyffordd â South Road, am oddeutu 20 medr i gyfeiriad y de ar ddwy ochr y gyffordd.

Dovedale Street Y Barri – Map AT53

Ar y gyffordd â Court Road, am 10 medr i gyfeiriad y de ar ddwy ochr y gyffordd.

Court Road Y Barri – Map AT53

Ar y gyffordd â Dovedale Street, am 10 medr i gyfeiriad y gorllewin a'r dwyrain ar ddwy ochr y gyffordd.

Maes y Ffynnon Tresimwn – Map AC42

Ar ddwy ochr y gyffordd â ffordd A48, am oddeutu 10 medr i gyfeiriad y gogledd.

ATODLEN 2

Cynigiwyd diddymu rhan o orchymyn sy'n 'gwahardd cerbydau rhag aros ar unrhyw adeg'

Colhugh Street Llanilltud Fawr – AU22

Ar yr ochr ddwyreiniol fymryn i'r de o'r gyffordd â Spitzkop, am oddeutu 20 medr i gyfeiriad y de, wrth ymyl eiddo rhifau 17 a 18.
Wrth ymyl 'Bronwydd' a 'The Court' am 20 medr.
Wrth ymyl eiddo 'Rose Cottage' am 10 medr.

ATODLEN 3

Cynigiwyd gweithredu gorchymyn sy'n 'gwahardd cerbydau rhag aros a rhag llwytho ar unrhyw adeg'

Bron-y-Môr Y Barri – Map BA48

Ar ei hochr ogledd-orllewinol, o wal derfyn orllewinol eiddo rhif 6, am oddeutu 28 medr i gyfeiriad y de orllewin hyd at y gyffordd â Birch Grove.

ATODLEN 4

Cyfyngu Aros i 2 awr, Llun- Sad, 8am–6pm (heb hawl dychwelyd o fewn 2 awr)

Bron-y-Môr Y Barri (y gilfach barcio'r tu allan i'r siopau) - Map BA48

Ar ei hochr ogledd-orllewinol, o wal derfyn orllewinol eiddo rhif 6, am oddeutu 45 medr i gyfeiriad y gogledd ddwyrain.

Dyddiedig 17 Mawrth 2016

M. E. Punter,
Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau'r Amgylchedd a Thai,
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg,
Canolfan yr Alpau, Gwenfô CF5 6AA.

GEM READERS' LETTERS EXTRA

Planning: do the sums add up?

VISITING voters on Vale doorsteps, it's clear our council needs a maths course.

Current new homes build: 260 in Ogmore by Sea + 50 in Colwinston + 450 in Cowbridge + 180 in Wick = 940 new households. Multiply by a conservative 1.5 children per home = 1,410 (!) NEW school-aged children.

Cowbridge Comprehensive's census was 1,200 in 2011; today it is 1,538, a 28 per cent increase in five years with no new houses built.

St Bride's Major Primary = full to capacity. Wick Primary = full to capacity. Colwinston Primary = full to capacity.

'Planned' new primary school for Darren Farm? Average council approval time = 10 years. New Llantwit Major Comprehensive = full before it opens next year. Solve for 'x.'

What process allows so many houses built without first figuring we will need 'x' number of school places?

What do we tell new parents who purchased their home three years ago, had a baby, and registered him when he was born with the local school… But were told by the head, they may not have a place for him… in 2018? Solve for 'Tristan.'

'Walkin' Denis' Campbell,
Liberal Democrat Assembly candidate for the Vale.

Soup Ladies' thank you

THE Soup Ladies would like to thank everyone who supported our recent Lent lunches in All Saints,' Barry, where a magnificent profit of £947 and a few pence, was raised for our church funds. Thank you all once again for your loyal support.

Jen Morgan,
Barry.

Sad threat to local wildlife

AFTER reading the article in The GEM about disappearing wildlife at Cemetery Approach, I wholeheartedly agree with the local resident Bryn Evans.

His idea was to keep it natural as it was a haven for all manner of wildlife and birds. Now there is the odd tweet and coo!

I attended the council meeting regarding the proposed works; I was informed that 'nothing much' was found by the council's ecologist. I was also made aware that even more trees will be cut down.

During the consultation, I viewed the plans and there is very little to replace and encourage wildlife, apart from another pond area, the cemetery already has one. It's just a shame there will be little or no use for it.

There is no replanting of hedges or trees that I was made aware of, just open space on both sides, with paths and a new community hall.

The only conservation area left is to the right side, far corner – unless they decide to clear that, too!

Cemetery Lane has little to offer, either, with trees destroyed and damage due to large vehicles and remodelling of the White Farm development, ie the cycle path, which is big enough for cars – and now more clearance for the flood scheme.

Wildlife, as we know it, is no more. Their habitat destroyed, they are being driven out of the area. Numbers are in decline.

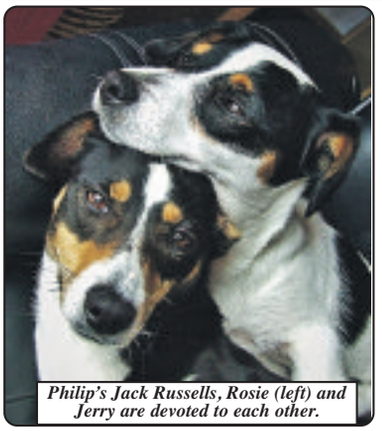
Bats were once numerous, hedgehogs visiting, frogs, slow-worms, newts, foxes and squirrels. All manner of birds and insects are noticeably absent.

It is a travesty that our beautiful town is fast turning into a concrete jungle and future generations will probably have to visit a country park or a zoo, to view these beautiful creatures. Now that is sad!

T Abery,
Barry.

Go to the **The GEM** for the latest stories and breaking news...
www.barry-today.co.uk
www.cowbridge-today.co.uk
www.llantwit-major-today.co.uk
www.bridgend-today.co.uk
www.porthcawl-today.co.uk

BEST FRIENDS WE WOULD NEVER BE WITHOUT – READERS' PRECIOUS PETS



Philip's Jack Russells, Rosie (left) and Jerry are devoted to each other.

Sadie's loving little gang Buddy, Molly and Lola.

Ozzy and Dado – butter wouldn't melt...!

LAST week The GEM reported that national pet month – April 1 to May 2 – was on its way. The campaign is to highlight responsible animal ownership.

We also asked GEM readers to send in pictures of their star pets and here they are! (*KEEP THEM COMING...*)

Lily's King Charles Spaniels Millie and Pippa having a rest after walkies at Dunraven Bay.

Jane's dog Magic doing a 'High Five'!

Steve and Carol's dog Megan enjoying a sunny day in Llanblethian.

Samantha's Havana and Oriental Lilac cats.

The Vale of Glamorgan Council

(PROHIBITION AND RESTRICTION OF WAITING AND LOADING AND PARKING PLACES) (CIVIL ENFORCEMENT) (AMENDMENT) (NO 1) ORDER 2016

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The following Traffic Regulation Order is to be amended as follows:

Vale of Glamorgan Council (Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting and Loading and Parking Places) (Civil Enforcement) Order 2013

SCHEDULE

Proposed 'No Waiting at Any Time'

Penarth Portway Penarth – Map AI 64 AH64

On its southern end, adjacent to the southern boundary of 'The Meridian' in a northerly direction for 32 metres on both sides of the road.

On the west side of the road, approximately 20 metres north of the above restriction, in a northerly direction for a distance of 12 metres.

On its northern end from its junction with Llwyn Passat, on its western side for 20 metres around the junction and on its eastern side for 16 metres around the junction.

Redlands Avenue Penarth – Map AJ62

On both north and south sides of the junction with Redlands Avenue, approximately 10 metres in a westerly direction.

Highwalls Road, Dinas Powys – Map AL58

On the north-western side, opposite the northern boundary of number 10 Highwalls Road, in a north westerly direction for a distance of 23 metres.

On the north-eastern side, from the common boundary of numbers 6 and 8 Highwalls Road, in a north westerly direction for a distance of 25 metres.

Mill Road, Dinas Powys – Map AL58 AL59

On the south-eastern side of Mill Road, from a point 20 metres north-east of its junction with Elm Grove Road and contiguous with the existing no waiting at any time restriction, north-eastwards to its junction with Mill Close, a distance of 38 metres.

On the south-western side of Mill Road, from a point 24 metres north-east of its junction with The Square and Elm Grove Road, contiguous with the existing no waiting at any time restriction, north-eastwards for a distance of 40 metres.

Brookside Dinas Powys – Map AK60

At its junction with Cardiff Road, in a southerly direction for a distance of 20 metres on both sides of the junction.

Unnamed junction south of Denys Close Dinas Powys – Map AK60

On the western side just south of Denys Close, for a distance of approximately 20 metres, contiguous with the existing restriction at its junction with Cardiff Road.

Dated this 17th day of March 2016.

M. E. Punter
Director of Environment & Housing
Vale of Glamorgan Council, The Alps,
Wenvoe CF5 6AA

Cyngor Bro Morgannwg 2016

GORCHYMYN (GORFODI SIFIL) (DIWYGIO) (RHIF 1) (GWAHARDD MANNAU AROS, LLWYTHO A PHARCIO A CHYFYNGU AR FANNAU AROS LLWYTHO A PHARCIO)

1. Ar 15 Mawrth 2016, yr oedd Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, gan arfer ei bwerau o dan Adrannau 1, 2, 3, 4, 32, 35, 45, 46, 53, a 124 a Rhan IV o Atodlen 9 Deddf Rheoli Traffig Ffyrdd 1984, a Rhan 6 Deddf Rheoli Traffig 2004 a phob pŵer galluogi arall, wedi gwneud Gorchymyn y mae ei effaith wedi'i disgrifio isod:2.

2. Daw'r Gorchymyn i rym ar 21 Mawrth 2016 neu bryd bynnag y bydd yr holl arwyddion a marciau ffordd yn barod. Fe'i hadwaenir fel 'Gorchymyn (Gorfodi Sifil) (Diwygio) (Rhif 1) (Gwahardd Mannau Aros, Llwytho a Pharcio a Chyfyngu ar Fannau Aros, Llwytho a Pharcio) Cyngor Bro Morgannwg 2016'.

3. Cewch weld copi o'r Gorchymyn a'r cynllun sy'n dangos y mannau y bydd y Gorchymyn yn effeithio arnynt, yn y cyfeiriad isod yn ystod oriau arferol swyddfa.

4. Os hoffech ddadlau'n erbyn dilysrwydd y Gorchymyn neu'i ddarpariaethau am na chredwch fod gan y ddeddf uchod bŵer i'w gweithredu, neu am y tybiwch eu bod yn methu â chydymffurfio â gofynion y ddeddf uchod neu un o'i hofferynnau, bydd gennych chwe wythnos o 21 Mawrth 2016 i wneud cais i'r Uchel Lys i'r diben hwnnw.

Bydd y Gorchymyn Rheoli Traffig canlynol yn cael ei ddiwygio fel a ganlyn:

Gorchymyn (Gorfodi Sifil) (Gwahardd Mannau Aros, Llwytho a Pharcio a Chyfyngu ar Fannau Aros, Llwytho a Pharcio) Cyngor Bro Morgannwg 2013.

ATODLEN

Cynigiwyd 'Gwahardd Aros ar Unrhyw Adeg' yn y mannau hyn

Penarth Portway, Penarth – Map AI 64 AH64

Ar ei phen deheuol, wrth ymyl terfyn deheuol 'The Meridian' am 32 medr ar ddwy ochr yr heol i gyfeiriad y gogledd.

Ar ochr orllewinol yr heol sydd oddeutu 20 medr i'r gogledd o'r cyfyngiad uchod, am 12 medr i gyfeiriad y gogledd.

Ar ben gogleddol yr heol, o'r gyffordd â Llwyn Passat am 20 medr o amgylch y gyffordd honno ar ei hochr orllewinol, ac am 16 medr o amgylch y gyffordd ar ei hochr ddwyreiniol.

Redlands Avenue, Penarth – Map AJ62

Ar ochrau gogleddol a deheuol y gyffordd â Redlands Avenue, am oddeutu 10 medr i gyfeiriad y gorllewin.

Highwalls Road, Dinas Powys – Map AL58

Ar yr ochr ogledd-orllewinol, gyferbyn â therfyn gogleddol rhif 10 Highwalls Road, am 23 medr i gyfeiriad y gogledd orllewin.

Ar yr ochr ogledd-ddwyreiniol, o gyd-derfyn eiddo rhifau 6 ac 8 Highwalls Road, am 25 medr i gyfeiriad y gogledd orllewin.

Mill Road, Dinas Powys – Map AL58 AL59

Ar ochr dde-ddwyreiniol Mill Road, o fan sy'n 20 medr i'r gogledd ddwyrain o'r gyffordd â Elm Grove Road, ac yn cydgyffwrdd â'r cyfyngiad presennol sy'n gwahardd aros ar unrhyw adeg, am 38 medr i gyfeiriad y gogledd ddwyrain hyd at y gyffordd â Mill Close.

Ar ochr dde-orllewinol Mill Road, o fan sy'n 24 medr i'r gogledd ddwyrain o'r gyffordd â The Square a Elm Grove Road, ac yn cydgyffwrdd â'r cyfyngiad presennol sy'n gwahardd aros ar unrhyw adeg, am 40 medr i gyfeiriad y gogledd ddwyrain.

Brookside, Dinas Powys – Map AK60

Ar y gyffordd â Heol Caerdydd am 20 medr ar ddwy ochr y gyffordd i gyfeiriad y de.

Cyffordd ddienw i'r de o Denys Close, Dinas Powys – Map AK60

Ar yr ochr orllewinol, fymryn i'r de o Denys Close, am ryw 20 medr gan gydgyffwrdd â'r cyfyngiad presennol ar y gyffordd â Heol Caerdydd.

Dyddiedig 17 Mawrth 2016

M. E. Punter,
Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau'r Amgylchedd a Thai,
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg,
Canolfan yr Alpau, Gwenfô. CF5 6AA.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: 5:00PM 23 March 2016

Vale of Glamorgan Council | Hafod Housing Association | Newydd Housing Association | United Welsh | Wales and West Housing Association

homes4u HOTLINE 01446 709840

To apply call the hotline, e-mail us at
HOMES4U@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk
or apply in writing to:
Vale of Glamorgan Council
Visible Services and Housing
Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry CF63 4RU or
Newydd Housing Association
121 Broad Street, Barry CF62 7AL

BUTTLEE COURT, BARRY

H4U Reference 1101708
Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement
- Three-bedroom flat
- First floor – no lift
- Step-in shower
- Central heating
- Double-glazing

Rent £98.86 per week

CLOS PEIRIANT, BARRY

H4U Reference 126311
Suitable for a single person or couple
- One-bedroom flat
- Second floor
- Central heating
- Double-glazing

Rent £85.15 per week

CWM PARC, BARRY

H4U Reference 229929
Suitable for a single person or couple over 55 – no pets
- One-bedroom first floor flat
- Central heating
- Double-glazing
- Warden and alarm

Rent £108.99 per week including alarm, warden and water charges

DUNLIN COURT, BARRY

H4U Reference 126440
Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirements
- Three-bedroom house
- Gas central heating
- Double-glazing
- Parking

Rent £105.05 per week including service charge

GRAYBURN HOUSE, BARRY

Subject to local lettings policy

H4U Reference 126438
Suit. for applicants over 40 meeting the maximum occupancy requirement
No children under 16 or pets
- Two-bed ground floor flat
- Gas central heating
- Double-glazing
- Communal door and parking

Rent £101.70 per week including service charge

HANOVER COURT, DINAS POWYS

H4U Reference 1023821
Suitable for a single person or couple over 55 (50 with medical need)
- One–bed ground floor flat
- Level access shower
- Central heating
- Double-glazing
- Alarm

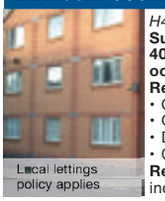
Rent £93.27 per week

HARLECH GARDENS, BARRY

H4U Reference 211166
Suitable for a single person or couple over 40 with a medical priority
- One-bed ground floor flat
- Central heating
- Double-glazing
- Community alarm

Rent £95.03 per week inc. water and alarm charges

LIDDICOAT COURT, BARRY



Local lettings policy applies

H4U Reference 1034873
Suit. for applicants over 40 meeting the maximum occupancy requirements
References required
- One-bed second floor flat
- Gas central heating
- Double-glazing
- Communal door

Rent £87.53 per week including service charge

LITTLE DOCK STREET, PENARTH

H4U Reference 240973
Suitable for a single person
- Studio apartment
- Ground floor
- Central heating
- Double-glazing
- Water meter

Rent £79.08 per week

LONGMEADOW COURT, COWBRIDGE

H4U Reference 230289
Suitable for a single person or couple over 60 – no pets
- One-bedroom flat
- First floor with lift
- Central heating
- Double-glazing
- Warden and community alarm

Rent £118.34 per week inc. water and alarm charge

MERTHYR STREET, BARRY

H4U Reference 126426
Suitable for a single person or couple
- One-bedroom flat
- Ground floor
- Gas central heating
- Double-glazing

Rent £84.01 per week including service charge

OWENS CLOSE, BARRY

H4U Reference 218815
Suit. for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement – no pets
- Two-bed first floor flat
- Central heating
- Double-glazing
- Water meter

Rent £77.96 per week including water charges

PHILLIPA FREETH COURT, BARRY

Priority to tenants with medical need

H4U Reference 110269
Suitable for a single person over 55 – no pets
- One-bedroom flat
- First floor (no lift)
- Gas central heating
- Double-glazing
- Level access shower
- Communal door/parking

Rent £114.08 p.w. inc. service charge and water rates

REDLANDS HOUSE, PENARTH

H4U Reference 243717
Suitable for a single person over 60 – no pets
- Studio apartment
- Ground floor
- Central heating
- Double-glazing
- Warden and alarm

Rent £117.13 per week inc. warden and water charges

REDLANDS AVENUE, PENARTH

H4U Reference 243456
Suitable for a single person or couple over 55 with medical priority – no pets
- One-bed ground floor flat
- Central heating
- Double-glazing
- Warden and community alarm

Rent £110.39 p.w. inc. alarm warden and water charges

ST CATHERINES COURT, BARRY

H4U Reference 224589
Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement
- Three-bedroom house
- Central heating
- Double-glazing
- Gardens

Rent £104.98 per week including water charges

Expressions of interest

Aspire2Own

EDEN BROOK, YSTRADOWEN

United Welsh Housing Association, together with the Vale of Glamorgan Council announces the new development of 11 properties in Llandough.

Expressions of interest are invited from Homes4U members with either a local work, family or life connection to Ystradowen as the local lettings policy applies to this scheme.

The development will consist of:

- six, one-bedroom flats; three ground and three first floor (rent £75.58 with a service charge yet to be confirmed);
- four, two-bedroom houses (rent £96.26 with a service charge yet to be confirmed);
- one, three-bedroom house (rent £97.89 with a service charge yet to be confirmed.

LOW COST HOME OWNERSHIP – ST LYTHANS PARK

Two, two-bedroom houses are available St Lythans Park, Culverhouse Cross through United Welsh Housing Association.

Priority will be given to people with a local connection to the Wenvoe area, in accordance with a local sales policy.

The open market value of the homes is £170,000 and we are selling at 70% of this which is £119,000.

For further information, contact 01446 700111 and ask for Aspire2Own or e-mail housingstrategy@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

Visit the HOMES4U web page to view Immediately Available Homes
www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

You must be a HOMES4U member to apply for any of these homes.
When bidding for more than one property you will be asked to state your order of preference.
All descriptions and other details are given in good faith and are believed to be correct but any potential tenant should satisfy themselves as to their correctness.
Newydd is a charitable housing association.

Vale of Glamorgan Bro Morgannwg | Hafod | newydd | united welsh | Tai Wales & West Housing

THE STORY BEHIND THE PENARTH HISTORY DVD

IT took almost 12 months to produce *The Garden by the Sea – A Story of Penarth*, from the moment when research began in April 2015 to the completion of the sound edit in early March 2016 – just in time for its official release at the AGM of the Friends of St Peter's (the church in Old Cogan) on March 5.

The result is a 49-minute documentary that is proving highly popular in the town.

Producer Anthony Hontoir, who runs Porthcawl-based Downwood Film Productions, explains: "Most towns have quite a complex history and Penarth is no different.

"My aim was to tell its story from the main essentials of its past, and to let the narrative flow easily by taking the viewer on a leisurely tour through the locality, combining present day scenes, which I shot in and around Penarth from last spring until early autumn, mixed with old photographs and movie footage from the past.

"In respect of that last point, I had a real stroke of luck when an appeal in the local press brought a response from James Barnett, living in France, who grew up in Penarth and whose mother, one of the Leons, a wealthy ship-owning family, had taken a lot of movie footage in the 1930s.

"James came over on a family visit last September and brought around 100 rolls of 16mm film for me to look through. I was able to extract some really fascinating glimpses into the lives of his family all those years ago, and although much of it was concerned with life at the family's home in Park Road, there were also scenes shot on the seafront, and I included them in the finished film."

Anthony was pleased that townspeople and institutions cooperated to allow him to film in various locations, including the iconic pier and Pier Pavilion, and he was able to shoot a high-angle view of the pier from the roof of Seabank apartments, which also gave him a bird's eye view of The Kymin nearby.

One highlight of the film is the Penarth Yacht Club's Regatta last June, when, in addition to filming the preparation of the sailing dinghies on the beach, he was given access to one of the club's rescue boats to show several of the craft setting out for the starting line some distance out in the channel, and this gave a perspective of the promenade that many of Penarth's residents will never have experienced for themselves.

Photograph courtesy of Jayne Thomas Parker.

"The thing that was uppermost in my mind," says Anthony, "is that the camera should go to places and look at subjects which people are probably very familiar with, but have never given them their full attention; and this is why, I believe, films of this sort are so important – because they create interest in everyday surroundings. It should be remembered that scenes shot in the present will be history themselves in not too many years."

DVD copies are on sale at £9.95 each and can be purchased from AB Snell newsagents, Stanwell Road; Griffin Books in Windsor Road, and Umpa Lumpa sweetshop in Windsor Arcade.

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Vale of Glamorgan
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GROVE ESTATES

NEW

BARRY ROAD, BARRY
- 3 bedroom bay fronted semi-detached property
- Gas central heating & double glazed
- Gardens to front and rear
- Two reception rooms
- Offered freehold with vacant possession.

£140,000

UNDER OFFER

OBAN STREET, BARRY
- A well presented 2 bedroom Victorian bay fronted mid terrace property
- Gas central heating & double glazing
- Forecourt garden to the front with a raised garden to the rear
- Would make an ideal first purchase/family home
- Offered freehold

£112,000

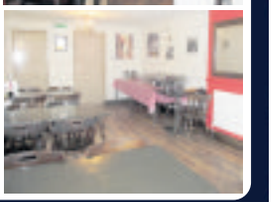
TREHARNE ROAD, BARRY
- Two bedroom mid terrace property
- Gas central heating & double glazed
- Conservatory
- Loft room
- Offered freehold

£99,950

NEW PRICE

"DOWNTOWN" AMERICAN CAFE & RESTAURANT, BARRY
- 50 seater licensed cafe & restaurant turnkey business for sale
- In a central location within the pedestrianised area of Holton Road
- Good sized premises set over two floors
- A3 usage
- Current rent £500 pcm with no rates payable

£112,500

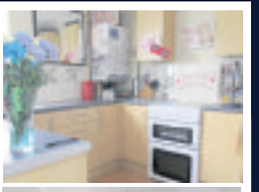


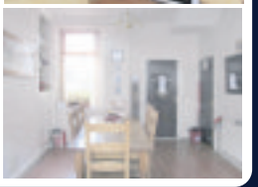
UNDER OFFER

ATLANTIC PLACE, BARRY
- Three bedroom semi detached property with driveway
- Gas central heating & double glazed
- In need of modernisation throughout
- Set on spacious grounds
- Offered freehold with no onward chain

£108,000

UNDER OFFER





MOREL STREET, BARRY
- 2 bedroom mid terrace property within walking distance to the town centre
- Gas central heating & double glazing
- Close to transport links in & out of Barry
- Low maintenance garden to the rear
- Sold freehold with no onward chain

£99,950

UNDER OFFER

BARRY ROAD, BARRY
- 3 bedroom mid terrace
- Gas central heating & double glazed
- Enclosed garden to the rear
- An ideal family home
- Offered leasehold at £2.25 per annum with no onward chain.

£99,950

LLEWELLYN STREET, BARRY
- Three bedroom mid terrace property in a popular location
- Gas central heating & double glazed
- Within walking distance to the town centre
- Situated close to schools and transport links in & out of Barry
- Freehold

£94,950

RENTALS

High Street, Barry
2 bed 1st floor maisonette. GCH. DG. Unfurnished. £475PCM

Main Street (GFF), Barry
1 bed ground floor flat. GCH. DG. Unfurnished. £450 PCM

Porthkerry Road, Barry
3 bedroom property, West End of Barry, GCH, DH. Unfurnished £650pcm

01446 747474 sales@e-grove.co.uk www.e-grove.co.uk

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Sales

LIVINGSTONE WAY, ST ATHAN
NEW

- Spacious end of terrace property
- 4 bedrooms
- 2 reception rooms
- NO CHAIN

£108,000

CAPEL CARIAD, COLWINSTON
SSTC

- Converted chapel
- 4 bed detached
- 3 reception rooms
- Backing onto farmland

£525,000

THE SYCAMORES, LLYSWORNEY

- Detached character cottage
- 4 bedrooms
- Original features
- Large gardens

£500,000

BADGERS BROOK CLOSE, YSTRADOWEN
NEW

- 3 bed semi
- No chain
- New carpets
- Driveway & garden

£250,000

MAES Y BRYN, COLWINSTON
SSTC

- Spacious semi detached house
- 3 bedrooms
- 2 reception rooms
- In need of total modernisation

£210,000

EWENNY ROAD, BRIDGEND

- Traditional semi detached house
- 3 bedrooms
- Extended and improved
- Well regarded location

£215,000

MACKWORTH STREET, BRIDGEND

- Mid-terrace property
- 3 bedrooms
- Private garden to rear
- On street parking

£105,000

CEFN FARM, BRIDGEND
SSTC

- Detached character cottage
- 3 double bedrooms
- 4 acres of pasture land
- Stable block

£499,500

IVY COTTAGE, GILESTON

- Detached traditional cottage
- 2 double bedrooms
- Views across to Devon Coastline
- Garage and ample parking

£265,000

PENYLAN COURT, ST BRIDES MAJOR

- 4 bed detached property
- 3 reception rooms
- Detached garage
- Rear garden with open views

£400,000

RINGWOOD CRESCENT, ST ATHAN
SSTC

- Detached house
- 6 bedrooms
- Large garden
- Twin garage

£499,950

CLOS FFAWYDDEN, YSTRADOWEN

- 4 bedrooms
- 3 reception rooms
- Detached double garage
- Large rear garden

£410,000

Land

LAND AT OLD CASTLE, LLANGAIN

- 34 acres agricultural land
- Useful farm buildings
- Equestrian potential
- Caravan for residential purposes

£250,000

COWBRIDGE ROAD, TALYGARN

- 115.5 acres in total
- Ring fenced

£775,000

TYLCHA FACH TERRACE, COED ELY

- Located to rear of semi-detached houses
- Approximately 0.1 acre

£10,000

LAND AT WATERTON LANE

- Development land
- Extending to c.1.1 acres
- Outline planning

£500,000

LOCATION

Caerphilly

LOCATION

Cardiff

LOCATION

Cowbridge

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OnTheMarket.com
ARLA
UCS

Windmill Lane, Llantwit Major
4 Beds. 2 Recps
Annex. Triple Garage
Sought After Location
£495,000 E53

Partridge Road, St Athan
2 Beds. Loft Room.
GCH Combi.
Countryside Views.
£109,950 E45

Stag Lane, Llantwit Major
2 Bedrooms
West End Location
Off Road Parking
£159,950 F23

Chris Davies

Rhoose 01446 711900
Llantwit Major 01446 792020
Barry 01446 700007
sales@chris-davies.co.uk

Glyndwr Avenue, St Athan
3 Beds. 2 Recps.
2015 Combi. UPVC.
Ideal First Time Buy.
£139,950 F37

St Davids Crescent, St Athan
2 Bedrooms.
Southerly Rear.
No Chain. Parking.
£124,950 C70

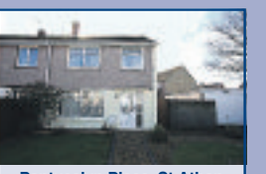
St Davids Crescent, St Athan
3 Bedrooms
Parking for 2 Cars
GCH Combi
£133,000 C72

Tyle House Close, Llanmaes
4 Beds. 2 Recps.
Driveway. Garage.
Sought After Village.
£349,950 C69

Llantwit Garden Close, St Athan
3 Beds.2 Recps.
GCH Combi. No Chain.
Corner Plot.
£159,950 C70

West End Terrace, Llantwit Major
2 Beds. Gardens.
2015 GCH Combi.
West End Location.
£199,950 C69

Llantwit Road, St Athan
3 Beds. En-Suite.
Driveway. Kitchen/Diner.
Show Home Standard.
£239,950 B83



Pantycelyn Place, St Athan
3 Beds. Garage.
UPVC. GCH Combi.
Well Presented.
£154,950 D58

Boverton Brook, Boverton
3 Beds. 2 Recps.
Garage. En-Suite.
Rarely Available.
£249,950 E46

Channel View, Marcross
3 Beds. Conservatory.
Driveway for 4 Cars.
Stunning Views.
£275,000 D64

Daniel Hopkin Close, Llantwit Major
4 Beds. 2 Recps.
Garage. Extended.
Superb Countryside Views.
£259,950 tbc

Partridge Road, St Athan
2 Bedrooms
GCH 2016 Combi
No Chain
£102,950 D60

Eagle Road, St Athan
2 Beds. Log Burner.
UPVC. GCH Combi.
95' Rear Garden.
£119,995 tbc

Glebeland Place, St Athan
3 Beds. 3 Recps.
Extended. Garage.
100' Garden.
£174,950 E51

Higher End, St Athan
4 Beds. 2 Recps.
Southerly Rear. No Chain.
Double Garage & Driveway.
£269,950 D61

Glyndwr Avenue, St Athan
3 Beds. 2 Recps.
Driveway for 3 Cars.
Potential to extend.
£149,950 E50

Lets!

Cei Dafydd, Barry
1 Double Bedroom
Lounge/Balcony/Water View
Kitchen With
Appliances/Parking
B81. Band C
£525 PCM

Scott Close, St Athan
Unfurnished
Three Bed
Parking
Band C. D55
£550 PCM

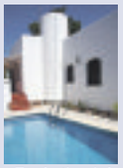
Llys Dwynwen, Llantwit Major
Two bed
Conservatory
GCH
C73. Band C
£575 PCM

Llwyn Y Gog, Rhoose Point
Two Double Bedrooms
Double Drive and Garage
Modern Kitchen
C68 Band C
£650 PCM

Claude Road, Barry
Three beds
UPVC double glazing
GCH
Band C, D68
£675 PCM

Fonmon Park Road, Rhoose, Barry
Three Bedrooms
Kitchen Diner
Garage
D58. Band D
£680 PCM

Costa Blanca



2 double bedroom detached villa. Sea views. Private pool. 15 mins to airport

For further information, contact
Paul on 0800 135 7503 or email spain@chris-davies.co.uk

Fairfield Rise, Llantwit Major
2 Beds. 2 Recps.
62' Driveway. Garage.
No Forward Chain.
£194,950 D59

Higher End, St Athan
4 Beds. 2 Recps.
Conservatory
90' Garden. Garage
£249,950 D57

103 Boverton Road
4 Bedrooms
2 Receptions
Detached Garage
£499,950 E55

Attention Landlords!

We have fully referenced quality tenants waiting for property in Barry, Rhoose, Llantwit Major & St Athan.

Let only or fully managed. Same-day rent processing.13 week mid-term inspections. Detailed inventory and statement of condition. Call our ARLA qualified letting specialist Dawn Oldfield 01446 791967 or 07876 747444.

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Call Sally today to book a viewing
01446 791965
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Public Notice

NOTICE OF PUBLIC PATH ORDER
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990, SECTION 257 AND PARAGRAPH 1 OF SCHEDULE 14
THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL (PUBLIC FOOTPATH NO 2 ST ATHAN)
PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION ORDER 2016

The above order was made on 17th day of February 2016. The effect of the order will be to divert the public footpath running from a point on the western boundary of the new residential development (NGR 301313 168177) to the adopted highway, St Johns Hill (NGR 301543 168254) and create an alternative footpath on a line running from a point on the western boundary of the new residential development (NGR 301313 168177) to the adopted highway, St Johns Hill (NGR 301543 168254) as shown on the order map.

A copy of the order and the order map have been placed and may be seen free of charge at The Docks Office, Barry Docks, Barry, CF63 4RT during normal office hours. Copies of the order and map may be bought there at the price of £4.50.

Any representation about or objection to the order may be sent or delivered in writing addressed to the Head of Regeneration and Planning, Docks Office, Barry Docks, Barry, CF63 4RT not later than the 14th April 2016. Please state the grounds on which it is made.

If no such representations or objections are duly made, or if any so made are withdrawn, the Vale of Glamorgan Council may itself confirm the order as an unopposed order. If the order is sent to the Welsh Ministers for confirmation any representations or objections which have not been withdrawn will be sent with the order.

Dated this 17th March 2016

RHYBUDD O WNEUD GORCHYMYN LLWYBR CYHOEDDUS DEDDF CYNLLUNIO GWLAD A THREF 1990, ADRAN 257 A PHARAGRAFF 1 ATODLEN 14
CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG (LLWYBR TROED CYHOEDDUS 2 SAIN TATHAN)
GORCHYMYN DARGYFEIRIO LLWYBR CYHOEDDUS 2016

Gwnaethpwyd y gorchymyn uchod ar 17 Chwefror 2016. Effaith y gorchymyn fydd dargyfeirio'r llwybr troed cyhoeddus, sy'n rhedeg o fan ar darfyn gorllewinol y datblygiad tai newydd (CGC 301313 168177) hyd at briffordd fabwysiedig, St Johns Hill (CGC 301543 168254), a chreu llwybr troed amgen ar hyd llinell sy'n rhedeg o fan ar darfyn gorllewinol y datblygiad tai newydd (CGC 301313 168177) hyd at briffordd fabwysiedig, St Johns Hill (NGR 301543 168254), fel y dangys map y gorchymyn.

Mae copïau o'r gorchymyn a'r map wedi'u gosod, a chiawch eu gweld yn rhad ac am ddim yn Swyddfa'r Doc, Dociau'r Barri, Y Barri, CF63 4RT yn ystod oriau swyddfa arferol. Gewch brynu copïau o'r map a'r gorchymyn yn y fan honno am £4.50 yr un.

Gewch wneud sylwadau ar y gorchymyn neu'n wrthwyneba drwy anfon neu gyflwyno llythyr wedi'i gyfeiro at Bennaeth Adfywio a Chynllunio, Swyddfa'r Dociau, Dociau'r Barri, Y Barri, CF63 4RT erbyn 14 Ebrill 2016, a dylech nodi eich rheswmau dros wneud hynny.

Os nai ddaw sylwadau neu wrthwynebiadau i law yn y ffordd briodol, neu os caiff y rhai a ddderbyniwyd ildio eu hynny'n ôl, bydd hawl i Gyngor Bro Morgannwg gadarnhau'r gorchymyn ei hun fel gorchymyn diwrthwynebiad. Os caiff y gorchymyn ei anfon at Weinidogion Cymru ar gyfer ei gadarnhau, bydd y sylwadau a'r gwrthwynebiadau rese hynnwyd yn ôl, yn cael eu hanfon gyda'r gorchymyn.

Dyddiedig 17 Mawrth 2016

Situations Vacant

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Written applications, with references, giving past work experience, may be addressed to:
The Town Clerk, Bridgend Town Council, Carnegie House, Wyndham Street, Bridgend, CF31 1EF.

Or via e-mail: **bridgend. tc@bridgend.gov.uk**

Closing Date: 12 noon on Friday 1st April 2016.

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Public Notices

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A PREMISES LICENCE UNDER THE GAMBLING ACT 2005

Notice is hereby given that:
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of the following address:
ASTRA HOUSE, 1 KINGSWAY, BRIDGEND INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, BRIDGEND CF31 3RY

is/ are applying for a
ADULT GAMING CENTRE
premises licence under section 159 of the Gambling Act 2005.

The application relates to the following premises: **GAMESZONE, AIRSIDE, CARDIFF INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, RHOOSE CF62 3BD**

The application has been made to:
VALE OF GLAMORGAN

Information about the application is available from the licensing authority, including the arrangements for viewing the details of the application.

Any of the following persons may make representations in writing to the licensing authority about the application:

* A person who lives sufficiently close to the premises to be likely to be affected by the authorised activities

* A person who has business interests that might be affected by the authorised activities

* A person who represents someone in any of the above two categories.

Any representations must be made by the following date: 07/04/16

It is an offence under section 342 of the Gambling Act 2005 if a person, without reasonable excuse, gives to a licensing authority for a purpose connected with that Act information which is false or misleading.

Birthdays

To our caring grandson, nephew and cousin

Samuel Rowlands

Always happy to help anyone.

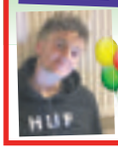
Have a lovely **18th** birthday on Sunday 20th March

18

All our love, Nanny & Grampy, Auntie Helen & Uncle Rob, Auntie Sian & Uncle Grant, Stephanie, Tasha & Lucy xxxxx

LUKE ALLISON

Happy 18th Birthday



on 22nd March

Wishing our favourite son a fabulous day!!!

All our love Mum, Dad and Nicole

Happy Birthday to Jean O'Brien

from family & friends on March 20th, 2016. xxx

Happy 18th Birthday

To My Wonderful Son

SAMUEL ROWLANDS

Hope you have an AMAZING *18th* on Sunday, 20th March, with all my love,

Mum and your best friend Buddy xxxx

Rebecca Jayne Rigby

Happy 18th Birthday

Have a fantastic day!

Lots of love from Dad, The John's, The Lynch-Wilson's, and The Powell's.

PS. Mum will be proud of you.

xxxxxxx

Samuel Rowlands

To our fab brother on your

18th Birthday

Have a blast!

20th March

All our love, Chlo, Josh, Jake & Matty xxxx

Samantha Miller

Happy Birthday

on March 21.

best wishes from your friends at the GEM

PAUL BRIGHT

Happy 50th Birthday

on the 20th March

All our love

Mel, Mook, Bear & Poppy xxx

Property

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Family Notices

BULLER
Marian

Peacefully on March 5 at Holme Tower, Penarth, after an illness bravely borne, Marian of Llantwit Major, loving wife of Melvyn and devoted mother of Stephen.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Friday, March 18, service and cremation 2pm at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry. No flowers by request, donations in lieu, if desired, to Holme Tower Marie Curie Centre, c/o J James, 11 Fonmon Road, Rhoose, Vale of Glamorgan, CF62 3DZ.

FRAMPTON
Eileen Elizabeth (Betty)

Formerly of McQuade Place, Barry Island, died peacefully at Springbank Nursing Home on Friday, March 4. Beloved wife of the late Raymond and adored mother of Phillip and Marilyn. Cherished grandmother and much loved great grandmother.

Family funeral at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium on Monday, March 21 at 10am.

EVANS
Paula

Suddenly at home on March 6 - Paula, well known for her time at Tesco Penarth. Much loved mum of Shaun & Lauryn, respected mother-in-law to Rhianna and Kyle. Cherished Nanny Paula of Louie, Theo and Bailey.

She will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved her.

Paula is in the care of Lyndsay Ellis @ The Vale Funeral Service, 181 Court Road, Barry until her service at Coastlands Family Church, Tennyson Road, Colcot, Barry on Thursday, March 24 at 11am, followed by committal at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry.

Family flowers only please - donations and personal tributes, if desired, may be made at the service or via Paula's online tribute page at www.valefuneralservice.co.uk to support Help For Heroes or The Breast Care Centre at Llandough Hospital.

SPENCE
Raymond

Suddenly on 10 March at U.H.W. Cardiff. Raymond (Ray), aged 90 years of Hazelhurst Nursing Home, Penarth, previously of Jewel Street, Barry. Beloved husband of the late May. A loved father of Ron, Ann and father-in-law of Sandy and Garry. Cherished grandfather of David, Garry, Michael, Christopher and loved great grandfather.

Ray will be sadly missed by all his family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams & Son Funeral Home, Gladstone Road, Barry, where flowers may be sent until the funeral on Thursday, 24 March. Service in the chapel at 1pm, afterwards cremation at Cardiff & Glamorgan crematorium, Port Road East, Barry at 2pm.

DOWNING
Richard Lawrence

Peacefully on March 13 at UHW Cardiff, Dick of Cowbridge, beloved husband of Jean, dearly loved father of Julie and Ian, much love Grumpy of Megan.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral on Thursday March 24, service and cremation 10.00am at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend. Please wear blue.

No flowers by request, donations in lieu, if desired, to Kidney Research UK, c/o J James, 11 Fonmon Road, Rhoose, Vale of Glamorgan CF62 3DZ.

PEARCE
William

Funeral service on Wednesday, March 23 at 3.30pm at St Isan's Church, Llanishen, followed by Thornhill Crematorium. Family flowers only.

Donations to the charity of your choice.

BURFORD
Leslie

Peacefully on March 5 at his home in Llantwit Major, after a short illness bravely fought, Les, devoted husband of Valerie, dearly loved father of Simon, Andrew and Emily, much loved granddad of Callum and Joey, beloved son of Louie and the late Joseph, dear brother of Lorraine, Chris and Janie.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Tuesday, March 22, service 11.45pm at St. Illtuds Church, Llantwit Major, followed by cremation at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend at 1.15pm. No flowers by request, donations in lieu, if desired, to Brain Tumour U.K. c/o J James, 11 Fonmon Road, Rhoose, Vale of Glamorgan CF62 3DZ.

Acknowledgements

HERBERT
Marjorie

Marilyn and Ken would like to thank all family and friends who attended their mother's funeral, for the messages of sympathy and kind donations.

Thank you also to Eryl Surgery, especially to Dr Foreman and Dr Kavanagh; The Vale Care nurses from CRT, Matthew Williams social worker; staff at Llantwit Major Leisure Centre and W.A. Brown & Sons for their care.

THATCHER
Myrddyn William

Barbara and the boys would like to thank relatives and friends for their messages of sympathy, cards and flowers on the recent sad loss of a dear husband, father and grandfather.

They would also like to thank everyone who attended the funeral service at Coychurch Crematorium.

MULCOCK
Joseph Henley

Beryl, Nick and family wish to thank everyone who attended Joe's funeral.

Thanks also for the kind donations given in Joe's memory and for the many cards and letters we received, which brought us so much comfort at this sad time.

In Memory

'VEGGIE'

The way we were,
Sadly you're gone,
You were loved.

All my love Sue x and children Ben, Michelle, Richard, Chloe and Sion xxx

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ABTA

'Waterfront voting arrangements are better now' – Plaid

PLAID Cymru councillors have welcomed changes to polling stations so that Waterfront residents can vote closer to home in future.

The proposals, which will be in place from this May's Welsh Assembly election, now mean new polling stations for the Waterfront for residents of the Baruc, Buttrills and Castleland wards – all of which are part of the Waterfront.

Voters from the new housing estate by Asda are in the Baruc ward, while the estate south-west of Gladstone Bridge is in Buttrills.

Voters there will vote in a new station by the Premier Inn/Brewer's Fayre.

Castleland residents, east of Gladstone Bridge, will vote at the Docks Offices.

Baruc Plaid Cymru councillor Nic Hodges welcomed the proposals, which were confirmed by the Vale Council at a recent full council meeting.

He said: "New residents on the estate by Asda will be able to vote closer to home, rather than have to travel to the Island.

"With the continued delays over the Island road, that was supposed to have been completed last year, it makes sense for a new polling station on the Waterfront rather than expect voters to drive all of the way around town or walk up the Clive Road steps."

Coun Ian Johnson added: "For the past 15 years, Waterfront residents in Buttrills have had to go to either St Paul's Avenue, Gladstone School or Pioneer Hall on Beryl Road.

"Having a polling station on the Waterfront will make it easier for people to vote on the day and will hopefully increase participation in the democratic process."

Charity in call for improved palliative care for children

UK charity 'Together for Short Lives' has partnered with children's palliative care professionals and providers including Tŷ Hafan to call on the next Welsh Government to maintain momentum in improving palliative care for children with life-shortening conditions.

In Wales, there are currently estimated to be over 1,050 children and young people living with conditions that mean they may not survive into adulthood.

Many of these children have extremely complex and unpredictable conditions, requiring round the clock care, seven days a week.

MANIFESTO

Among the commitments called for in a new document are: a stronger children's palliative care workforce; fair and sustainable funding for children's palliative care services; and improved joint working between children's and adult's services for young people who are transitioning into adult care.

Dr Richard Hain, the consultant and clinical lead of the Wales Managed Clinical Network, helped to produce the new manifesto 'asks'.

Commenting on the new requests in the manifesto 'Together for Short Lives,' chief executive Barbara Gelb said: "The next Welsh Government has the opportunity to transform the lives of the 1,000 children and young people with life-shortening conditions across Wales. These children have complex and unpredictable conditions and rely on tailored care and support.

"24/7 children's palliative care is provided by the family and supported by regular short breaks and specialist care.

"It is vital that the next Welsh Government makes sure there is sustainable funding for children's palliative care and investment in the workforce to make sure there are enough highly-trained specialists to care for these children."

Jeremy Jackson, deputy chief executive of Tŷ Hafan, said: "Our eight manifesto 'asks' set out the steps that the next Welsh Government can take to significantly improve the lives of children with life-shortening conditions and their families. We would like parties to commit not just to additional funding and investment in the sector, but also to promote collaboration within Wales and with the rest of the UK to make sure that we learn from best practice."

It's all go for the children at PhillyBears!

PHILLYBEARS playgroup, held at 5th Barry Sea Scout Hall in Everard Street, Monday to Friday (9.15am to 12.15pm) and on Thursday and Friday afternoons, has had a busy time since January and has also celebrated its third birthday.

A spokeswoman explained: "This Chinese New Year (the year of the monkey) the children enjoyed making monkey masks.

"They tasted Chinese noodles and prawn crackers. They also tried on traditional Chinese clothes which one of the staff members brought back from a trip to China.

"In February, the children celebrated Valentine's Day by making cards for their loved ones.

"For Shrove Tuesday they enjoyed pancakes.

"To start the week on February 29, the children made Welsh cakes with Steve and then took them home for their parents.

"On March 1 there was time to celebrate St David's Day. The children dressed up in Welsh costumes, rugby shirts or in red or green. They also had the chance to make Welsh flags complete with dragon.

"March 3 was World Book Day and the children dressed up as their favourite book character.

"By Friday the staff were all exhausted but had plenty of energy to help the children make Mother's Day cards in the shape of handbags."

Lights, camera, action at Pencoed

SONY UK Technology Centre has formally launched 30,000 sq ft of filming and production space at its site in Pencoed, which will provide dedicated facilities for Welsh TV and film productions.

The area will include production offices, changing rooms, make-up suites and four dedicated loading bays with direct lorry access.

Gerald Kelly, director of professional services for Sony UK TEC explained: "This is an exciting new venture for Sony UK Technology Centre. We hope that the flexible production space will be an asset to the vibrant creative sector in Wales. Working with our onsite incubation centre tenants Dragon Digital, the Ffilm Factory is the perfect go-to facility for all Welsh TV and film productions."

Hazards to health course

BARRY Communities First and Jobcentre Plus are running a free course on working safely with harmful chemicals in the workplace.

A one-day control of substances hazardous to health (COSHH) course will be held on March 31, at Jobcentre Plus, Holton Road from 9.30am until 4pm. Priority will be given to residents living in a Barry Communities First area which includes parts of Buttrills, Cadoc, Court, Castleland and Gibbonsdown.

Contact Communities First on 01446 709432, or visit www.BarryCommunitiesFirst.org.

Follow The GEM on Twitter - find us @*gem_news*

Title delight for Penarth hockey team!

HAVING secured promotion the previous weekend, Penarth Hockey Club added further lustre to one of the best seasons in its history by clinching two GoCrea8 Hockey League division titles on Saturday.

SWANSEA UNIVERSITY B 0, PENARTH A 3

Despite the senior side also being on the cusp of a divisional crown, the second XI encounter had more riding on it as the side travelled down the M4 looking for a seventh successive victory, and one that would reward the team with the De Cymru 2 title.

With the Swansea University side also already assured of promotion and holding top spot in the table by virtue of marginally better goal difference, it created a 'winner takes all' scenario suitable for the final week of the season.

The Penarth side started sharply, and it wasn't long before the front line of Dave Watkins and Kidby brothers James and David called the opposition keeper into action. Once the University side settled, however, the game proved to be fast flowing and end-to-end, and either team could have taken the lead.

An entertaining first half finished goalless, with Penarth captain Matthew Birch reminding his side that they were only 35 minutes away from claiming the title and pointing out how Swansea looked out of ideas, while his own players still had plenty left in the tank.

With the visitors' only frustration being that they were still on level terms with their hosts, patience was seen as the key to the second half but, ironically, Penarth weren't kept waiting too long for the first goal as James Kidby pounced on the rebound from a well-saved drag flick penalty corner and crashed the ball high into the net, much to the delight of the Penarth dug-out.

The Vale side's celebrations were muted almost immediately when they were reduced to 10 men following a harsh yellow card for a fairly innocuous foul in midfield, but continued to defend magnificently, limiting Swansea to no more than a few half chances.

Indeed, despite being short-handed, the Bears kept up the pressure on the University goal and, once restored to full strength, extended their advantage with James Kidby again on target, this time with a little help from the hapless goalkeeper after strong work by Docherty on the right saw him steal possession from the student attack before beating a couple more players and finding his forward with a pin-point pass.

As expected, Swansea came back strong, throwing everything forward in an attempt to get back into the game but Penarth refused to buckle. Captain Birch and Sam Chick made their entrance as the game restarted and, despite both carrying niggling injuries, helped put the game beyond doubt.

With Swansea leaving gaps at the back, and Penarth now playing two men up high, gaps were beginning to open up, and Birch exploited one of these to find his fellow substitute who, despite being surrounded by three defenders, proceeded to beat them all before smashing a rocket of a shot past the surprised keeper.

The final whistle was greeted to the celebration of the Bears and their travelling support. Man-of-the-match honours went to the entire backline and goalkeeper as, without their bravery and clean tackling, the score could have been a lot closer than 3-0, but the entire squad can look forward to playing at a higher level next season.

CARDIFF & MET A 3, PENARTH 11

The first XI travelled to local rivals Cardiff & Met knowing that anything other than a defeat would be enough to secure the De Cymru & The Marches 1 title, and were in confident mood with a strong squad on hand.

The Bears made a high-tempo start and soon found themselves two goals to the good, with player-coach Ben Croxall opening the scoring after working himself into space to fire home on the reverse side. The goal was followed in quick succession by another strike from Laith El-Khatib, who continued his remarkable run of goals in the second half of the season.

After some harsh umpiring decisions had temporarily reduced Penarth to nine men, Cardiff & Met used their numerical advantage as a springboard to bounce back into the game, pulling a goal back after an initial save from Adam Putt rebounded to an unmarked attacker, who finished on his reverse side.

The home side continued to dominate through the midpoint of the half but, once back to full strength, Penarth were able to reassert their previous dominance and bagged another two goals before the interval - with El-Khatib converting a drag flick before assisting David Joyce at the back post - to put the Vale side in command.

Penarth knew the first goal after the break would put the game to bed, and it didn't take long to come. Minutes after the restart, Richard John brought the ball out of defence before playing a cutting pass to El-Khatib, who duly fired home to complete his hat-trick.

With Cardiff & Met heads starting to drop, Penarth proceeded to run riot as they looked to finish the season in style. Joyce completed his own hat-trick with only three shots to highlight his finishing prowess, before Sam Williamson scored his first goal in three years after pouncing on a loose ball.

It was El-Khatib who made a grab for the headlines, however, as he added a further three goals before the final whistle to cement his position as leading scorer for the season.

Although Cardiff & Met mustered two goals of their own amid Penarth's glut, the final score of 11-3 left the Bears able to celebrate a well-earned title at the end of a successful season.

PENARTH B 2, WHITCHURCH F 7

Penarth Bees closed their season by playing runaway De Cymru 3 champions Whitchurch F on Saturday but, despite the seemingly one-sided scoreline, more than held their own and possibly deserved a closer result than a 7-2 defeat.

Penarth's plans to frustrate their visitors by playing a defensive system with just one man up front was quickly disrupted when Whitchurch scored two early goals, forcing the home side to revert to their usual formation, with midfield maestro David Thomas going on to feature prominently against his old club.

Penarth's endeavours were eventually rewarded when the hard-working Sam Salisbury beat the Whitchurch keeper with a smart finish, and this encouraged the Vale side to continue to press but, while they were being profligate in their finishing, Whitchurch were not and increased their lead to 4-1 by the interval.

The Bees were conscious that, despite facing a side whose style and ability were way above those of other sides at this level, they were very much still in the game. With midfielder Devash Patel and man-of-the-match Tom Griffiths growing in confidence, the sides exchanged goals early in the second period, with Thomas converting for the Bees to make the score 5-2.

Penarth continued to push forward and went close on a number of occasions, not least when skipper Nick Pratt, rolling back the years, saw a brace of bullet-like penalty corners cleared when seemingly destined for the bottom corner.

What could have been 5-4 quickly became 7-2 following some clinical finishing from the excellent Whitchurch forward line, who put the game beyond Penarth's reach despite the heroic efforts of goalkeeper James Erasmus.

The mutual respect between both sides was evident at the final whistle, as Penarth finished third in De Cymru 3, a more than respectable conclusion to their first season back in competition for 10 years.

Skipper Pratt, in his last game leading the Bees before taking the reins of the newly reformed fourth XI next season, was effusive in his praise and thanked all who had played for and supported the team throughout the season.

With the GoCrea8 Hockey League season now complete, immediate attention turns to the remainder of the cup competitions, with both Penarth's first and second XIs in semi-final action at Sophia Gardens this weekend, taking on Cardiff University A and Llandudno A in the Welsh Trophy (2.15pm) and Welsh Challenge (10.15am) respectively.

Penarth Hockey Club always welcomes new, old and returning players, umpires, supporters, friends and helpers regardless of age and ability. Training takes place on Wednesdays at Stanwell School, with the juniors on the pitch between 6.15pm and 7.15pm and the seniors between 7.15pm and 8.15pm.

Anyone interested in joining the club at senior or youth level can contact either player-coach Ben Croxall (b_croxall20@yahoo.co.uk) or club secretary Dave Stevens (d_stevens81@hotmail.co.uk) for further information.

CL

Local firms show line up for Rotary Dragon Boat regatta

THREE local firms have already signed up to support Barry Rotary Club's Dragon Boat regatta planned for May 28 at Cosmeston Country Park. The event which is believed to be the first of its kind to be held in the Vale, is aiming to raise much needed cash for local charities.

Dragon Boat Racing originated in China over 2,000 years ago and in recent years has become one of the most popular forms of charity event, which allows competitors and spectators to have fun while raising hundreds of thousands of pounds annually for good causes.

Organisers are hoping to attract 10-12 teams to take part in this inaugural fundraiser. The competing teams of 10 rowers sit side by side in a 30-foot long canoe, with a helm to steer and a drummer sitting up high in front, beating out rhythm. The boats are fitted with a colourful dragon's head and are an impressive sight at speed.

The three sponsors who have already signed up are Cosmeston café operators Caterleisure, local hauliers KCS Transport of Aberthaw, and Vale Aggregates based in Barry docks.

Paul Halstead, President of Barry Rotary Club said: "We are really grateful to these sponsors for getting behind us in our bid to present an exciting and fun event which will be great to watch and take part in.

"We want it to develop in the same way that our annual Firework Fiesta on Barry Island has so that it becomes a major date in the Vale's summer calendar".

Helping Barry Rotarians hold the event are professional organisers 'Race the Dragon who assist in dozens of similar fundraisers each year across the UK and include Boyzone's Ronan Keating, Shane Lynch and Keith Duffy and Westlife member Markus Feehily among celebrities who have taken part in their events.

There are several ways in which local people can get involved. Companies can sponsor a boat and provide their own teams with each rower being asked to raise pledges from friends and family of at least £25 which can be shared equally between the team's own and Rotary charities.

Pubs, clubs, charities or just groups of friends or work colleagues can also join in the fun by pledging to raise at least £250 per team.

To find out more about the event, to sponsor a boat, or enter a team, visit www.barrydragonboatfestival.co.uk, or call John Shapland on 01446 760508; email Robin Pitcher at robin.pitcher@talktalk.net.

There's a packed fixture list for Cowbridge RFC!

WITH the Six Nations drawing to a close it's time for Cowbridge to concentrate on the league.

There are still 11 matches to play (half of the league fixtures for the season) stretching well into May.

We start with Canton away this Friday evening, kicking off at 7pm.

There is congestion mid-table with five teams within six points of each other, and while Canton are one point ahead of Cowbridge in sixth place, they have played two more games.

We lost narrowly in November and will be looking for a good win to move up the table.

The following Saturday, March 27, we travel to mid-Wales to face struggling Llandrindod Wells who have won only one fixture all season - contact the club regarding transport for this fixture.

We then face St Albans away, and then have a home game against table-topping Taffs Well - only another seven matches after that, let's hope the weather is kind to us for the next few months!

RV/RK

Last minute Llantwit win

LLANTWIT Major AFC left it very late again to notch up their third Welsh League Division 3 success in a row.

An 88th minute strike by Max Morgan gave the home side the three points against an efficient Bridgend Street side, who themselves are pushing hard for promotion.

The first half was a very even affair without either keeper being asked too many questions.

Chances were rare as both teams' midfield and defensive lines coped comfortably with whatever was thrown at them.

Rob Jones for Llantwit Major was a constant threat in the free role he was given and looked the most threatening for either side.

In the second half Llantwit boss Karl Lewis was forced to make a striker change as Dale Stevenson departed at half-time for Lee Jones.

Further changes were forced as Dan James and John Thomas had to leave the field through injuries.

This forced Karl to play a more attacking formation as Jake Roberts pushed further up the park, while Morgan Lewis plugged the defensive gap admirably.

Lee Jones was involved in an aerial battle around the opposition's penalty spot; the resultant loose ball fell invitingly at Max Morgan feet and he volleyed home with aplomb from around 10 yards out.

Very little time remained and despite their best efforts the visitors could not get close to Jack Landsdown's territory and the three points were kept by the home side

Team: 1 J. Lansdown, 2 J. Thomas (G. Jennings 80), 5 R. Llewelyn(capt), 6 J. Roberts, 3 G. Davies, 4 J. Fletcher, 8 K. Smith, 7 D. James (Morgan Lewis 70), 10 R. Jones, 11 D. Stephenson (L. Jones 45), 9 M. Morgan.

DJ

PUPILS PROVE MATHS IS NO PI IN THE SKY!

Cardiff City players Tom Lawrence (Wales team) and Ben Wilson play Pi-less football with Bryn Hafren for Pi Day Cymru.

ON Monday, pupils at a Barry school served up a slice of match day pie - with a difference - in a bid to discover just how much maths affects our everyday lives!

As Pi Day Cymru swept the nation, the Bryn Hafren pupils kicked off the annual maths celebrations by challenging Cardiff City FC players Tom Lawrence (Wales squad player) and Ben Wilson to a 'Pi-less' match, using giant cube-shaped footballs.

The unusual twist on the game, which also featured goalposts shaped like the pi symbol, gave the students insight into what one of the world's most popular sports would be like if a Welshman hadn't coined and championed pi.

Pi Day Cymru has become a widely-recognised event in the maths calendar, thanks to its deep roots in Welsh history. Wales has a unique claim to the maths phenomenon that started in 1706 when William Jones from Anglesey was the first person to use the Greek letter π, or pi, to represent the mathematical constant which allows us to measure the circumference and area of circles.

Ella Forsyth, a 12-year-old year-8 pupil from Bryn Hafren, said: "I hadn't realised just how much we use Pi every day. It was actually really difficult trying to play football with square balls, and it just shows how different life would be if we didn't have pi!"

Pi Day Cymru has seen people of all ages celebrate uses of maths in everyday life. It was the brainchild of Prof Gareth Fffowc Roberts, Emeritus Professor at Bangor University, who last year received the backing of the Welsh Government to establish the date as an official day of national celebration in Wales.

To find out more about Pi Day Cymru, visit: https://www.facebook.com/beginsathome or follow @edubeginsathome.

MAD MONEY AND STONY ROAD WINNERS!

SUNSHINE greeted the good crowd at Howick for the Curre & Llangibby which saw the opening on the South Wales and Monmouthshire season and nine bookmakers - a lot fewer than in the past - were in attendance.

Racing got under way with the members, subscribers and farmers race which was won by the Vale's Mrs Jeanne Thomas' Stony Road, which beat the pacemaking Sweet Like You by five lengths.

Stony Road, a nine-year-old bay gelding, was partnered by Charlotte, or Charly as she likes to be known, Prichard whose father Ian trains the horse. Charly, who recently celebrated her 20th birthday, as commentator Eddie Williams told his audience, rode a well judged race and scored by five lengths from Sweet Like You in a time of 6 mins 49s compared to the 6 mins 53.7s when winning with the same rider in the saddle last year.

In the eight-year-ods and over PPORA club members race, recent Lydstep winner Books Review tried to make all the running under Mark Robinson and although still in front at the last, was beaten to the post by Real Milan which gave 21-year-old Jack Jones his first winner in only his fifth ride.

A real family horse, trained at Ross-On-Wye by Jack's mother and father, the 11-year-old bay gelding is apparently an "absolute delight"' to train. The Jones' were making a first visit to Howick and no doubt Jack, who is at Reading University, will want to return.

Seven faced the starter for the men's open race but there was only one horse really in it as Rachel Hooton's Desertmore View, despite jumping to the right at times, made every yard of the running to score by eight lengths from Lamboro Lad.

Desertmore View, winner of last year's Dunraven Bowl Hunter Chase at Chepstow, was surprisingly ridden by Matthew Barber.

His usual partner John Mathias was on Highly Unlikely which was unseated. Desertmore View's owner missed seeing her horse win as she runs a care home in west Wales and was on duty.

It will be up to her whether this exciting eight-year-old bay gelding takes his chance in the Aintree Foxhunters' Steeplechase this year.

Ten of the 18 entries lined up for the ladies' open race which was won by William and Angela Rucker's 11-year-old bay gelding Get It On a winner of several races under rules when trained by Evan Williams.

The well-backed Lauberhorn disappointed once again and was never really in the hunt. Get It On won by four lengths from Tiger Rag and was ridden by Sarah Bowen, aged 23, whose father Tim Bowen had won the 1987 Lady Dudley Cup on Pride Of Tullow. Sarah rides out for the Ruckers who are great point-to-pointing stalwarts.

Evan Williams' 18-year-old daughter Isabel, having her first ride in a point-to-point, led the field a merry gallop on the two mile chaser Sublime Talent which eventually tired in the closing stages but completed the course.

Welsh champion John Mathias initiated the first leg of a double when Without The Favourite, an eight-year-old bay gelding by Oscar, made nearly all to win the 15 strong restricted by five lengths from Island Cruise, who was still in with a chance at the second last fence.

WithoutTheFavourite, who lost his maiden tag at the Beaufort a week before, is trained by John's bride-to-be Amber Griffiths and enthusiasts will want to wish them all the best when they tie the knot on August 6.

The open maiden race was divided on the field and Moral Hazard, a seven-year-old brown gelding by Milan, ridden by John Mathias, although finishing tired, had eight lengths to spare over An Cor.

Trainer Beverley Thomas who owns the horse in partnership with Adrian Simpson said: "An old lady could ride him and I only got back into training recently by accident."

Beverley, who is the west Wales area secretary, is a former leading trainer and the last time she saddled a winner was in 2008 but clearly she has not lost her touch.

It is something of a coincidence that one of the two winning owners of the second division was the south Wales area secretary Liz Egerton, who owns the winner Mad Money in partnership with former rider Tudor Harris.

Their win came when the 10-year-old bay Mad Money, partnered by Cowbridge's Byron Moorcroft, who was chalking up his eighth winner of the season, made nearly all to score by two-and-a-half lengths from the favourite Tenant Farmer.

Mad Money is trained by Jonathan Tudor at Merthyr Mawr and joint owners Liz and Tudor were enjoying their first success as owners.

BRIAN LEE

ROTARY SIX NATIONS COMPETITION

IN the Rotary Six Nations competition, after four rounds, the following entrants are leading:

Trevor Evans, C. Cooke, Paul Adams, Martha Williams, John Lloyd and Keri Price.

All six have 10 out of 12 predictions correct, and they are closely followed by 24 people who are just one point behind going into the final weekend of the competition.

AL

THE BARRY RFC LOTTERY NUMBERS

THE Mega 4 Lottery numbers this week were 1, 4, 10 and 11 and there are no winners; this week's jackpot will be £1515.

AJ

Reds romp to Cup final!

COWBRIDGE Town Reds faced Llantwit Major for the first time this season when they met in the semi-final of the Vale of Glamorgan under-12 Cup.

Given the magnitude of the game, the teams were treated to a neutral referee which was a new experience for both boys and parents alike.

A beautiful morning in Llantwit saw the Reds kicking off up the slope, but Llantwit mounted the early attacks which were ably dealt with by the Reds defence.

As the half progressed, the Reds started to impose themselves and took the lead inside 10 minutes when Craig Tapsfield finished coolly after being well played in.

This was followed swiftly by the Reds' second goal, scored by Ruben Davies from a clever through-ball from midfield.

Despite the stop-start nature of the game, both teams were trying to play football and, as the half drew to a close, two quality pieces of play from Ruben enabled him to score twice to complete his hat-trick.

However, shortly before half-time, goalkeeper Aron Kempson pulled off a great save, diving at the feet on a Llantwit forward who seemed certain to score. The half-time whistle blew with the Reds leading 4-0.

Llantwit started the second half with a series of attacks but failed to capitalise on their chances.

The Reds then turned the tables as Sam Davies opened his account to make it 5-0.

Llantwit then pulled a goal back before the Reds won a penalty when a shot from Sam was handled in the box by a Llantwit defender.

Unfortunately the crossbar proved to be slightly too low for the resulting penalty kick and the score remained the same!

The Reds' sixth goal came from Akka Guwy whose powerful left-footed shot from the edge of the box gave the Llantwit keeper no chance.

Shortly afterwards, the Reds' final goal came from Harry Treharne after good work by Sam.

However, to their credit, Llantwit fought hard to the end and scored twice in the last few minutes to make the final score 7-3 to the Reds.

This was another good test for the Reds against a competitive Llantwit team and, pleasingly, the entire match-day squad contributed to an impressive team performance.

This fine win sees the Reds progress to face Porthkerry Panthers in the final of the Cup on April 15 at Jenner Park, Barry.

Squad: Finlay Ball, Tom Collingridge, Ben Cooke, Ruben Davies, Sam Davies, Steffan Evans, Akka Guwy, Rhys Hardman, Will Harris, Aaron Holcombe, Aron Kempson, Toby Mallett, Benji Mulcahy, Craig Tapsfield, Harry Treharne.

SE

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On and Off the Turf with Brian Lee

LLANCARFAN trainer Evan Williams's six-year-old The Gipper ran out a six lengths winner of the Pertemps Network Novices' Hurdle at Chepstow on Saturday.

Ridden by Adam Wedge, the long odds-on favourite finished six lengths ahead of Venitia Williams's Bennys King.

Williams also saddled the second and third in the Tori Global And The Samaritans Handicap Chase won by bottom weighted Sandy Beach with Tornado In Milan (Paul Moloney) which finished second and the top weighted Zarzak (Adam Wedge) which finished third.

Peterston-Super-Ely's Phil Dando saw his Driftwood Haze, finish second to the Rebecca Curtis trained Kit Casey in the Tesm National Hunt Maiden Hurdle and his Rainbow Haze, a course and distance winner, took third place behind Albert D'Olivate in the Ben Crutchley Memorial Handicap hurdle.

The winner was ridden by Pembrokeshire's Sean Bowen, one of the leading riders over the course.

ISABEL'S CLEAR ROUND

When Llancarfan's Isabel Williams the 18-year-old daughter of Evan and Cath Williams rode in her first point-to-point race at the Curre & Llangibby Hunt Steeplechases at Howick, near Chepstow, on Sunday, it was a rather special moment too for myself.

I not only have had the pleasure and privilege of reporting on the many successes of Isabel's father Evan, a former national champion point-to-point rider, and now a leading trainer, but I also reported on the successes of Isabel's grandmother Mary and late grandfather Rhys, and to have been involved in the sport I love for three generations is something that I am proud of as I cannot think of any other horse racing reporter who can claim the same.

Isabel, who has also ridden in a couple of flat races, led her nine rivals a merry gallop in the ladies' open race when riding her mother's 10-year-old Sublime Talent and was still in with a chance five fences from home.

But the 10-year-old bay gelding is more suited to two-mile chases rather than three and tired in the closing stages, finishing down the field.

However, Isabel who did well to complete the course, enjoyed the experience and, no doubt, we will be hearing more from her in the future.

The race was won by William and Angela Rucker's Get It On, a horse which Evan had trained in the past to win several National Hunt races.

Get It On was ridden by Sarah Bowen, aged 23, whose father Tim from Monmouthshire was also a successful amateur rider.

TIM'S MARKET RASEN WINNER

Aberthin's Tim Vaughan landed the three miles chase at Market Rasen on Sunday with his eight-year-old Bucking The Trend, which came home 20 lengths ahead of Ultimatum Du Roy.

Bucking The Trend was partnered by Alan Johns and was returned the 13/8 joint-favourite.

BRIAN LEE

Barry and District Ladies Skittle League

LATEST results from the Barry and District Ladies Skittle League for February 22 are as follows:

First division: Castle Bandits (D Collard 30) 258, SV Gals (C Gaffney 27) 236; Cigar Ladies (A McCarthy 33) 284, Special Angels (L Brigham 28) 238; Baker's Dozen (M Rockott, R Hewitson 27) 268, Space Finders (N Clark, T Snooks 30) 278; Coppers (S Curtis, J Hartnell 33) 335, Allsorts (H Bunting 34) 339; Family and Friends (L Sheppard 27) 248, Bobby's Girls (G Toogood, N Toogood, j Barnett 21) 183; Family Affair (C Thomas 29) 246, Colcot Ladies (S Mowcroft, A Singleton 26) 240; Barry Stars (N Jones 35) 339, Breakaways (C Parfitt 38) 313.

Second division: After Eights (P Mepham, A Jackson 27) 274, Pila Palas (J Griffiths 31) 307; Rhoose Starlights (C Dally, E Davies, G Oliver 25) 247, Cad Con Fillies (D Stringer 33) 275; Little Devils (S Vidler 28) 244, Castaways (D Rogers 28) 267; Vixens (J Pedrick 29) 243, Merry Makers (R Lewis 31) 282; Red Admiral (S Clements 34) 306, Rhoose Ravers (J Bishop 33) 266.

Third division: Friends and Neighbours (C White 28) 244, Rugby Triers (E Nicolaou 27) 266; Fallen Angels (R Phillips, L Chambers 26) 277, Hill Billies (C Whyman 28) 239; La Belles (R Clogg 35) 319, Persuaders (T Danielson 32)_ 292;Westenders (B Goddard, T Lambeth 23 212, SV Ladies (L McGivern 25) 215; Roller Coasters (S Jones, T Saunders 26) 232, Etcetera (C Mackintosh 26) 239; Dolly Mixtures (L Marsh 26) 229, Airways Angels (M Carpenter 26) 231.

Fourth division: Guardian Angels (S Aston 23) 166, Socialites (J Parker 123) 167; Challengers (B Griffiths, D Mallam 27) 237, Liberals (S Allen, S Boyd 25) 156; Witchill Wanderers (C Morrissey 34) 195, Off The Rails (T Rosser 33) 312; Rebels (A Phillips 27) 224, Uptown Girls (J Cosslett, A Hobbs 24) 184; Odd Bods (M Tew 28) 236, Living On The Spare (J Harvey 29) 261; Nite Outers (L Newman, B Lowrie, J Baker 24) 211, Witches (R Pope 24) 218.

WI darts event is a success!

THE annual Glamorgan Federation of Women's Institutes darts competition was held in Llanharry Workingmen's Club on February 20, and as usual this was a perfect venue for this event.

There were 14 teams of ladies from across Glamorgan and plenty of others to cheer them on.

The final this year was an exciting and close fought contest between Cwmavon WI and St Athan WI.

St Athan were the victors and congratulations go to them and all the contestants.

Everyone enjoyed the day out, whether playing, supporting or meeting friends from other institutes and no doubt the teams will soon be practicing ready for next year's competition!

MN

Follow The GEM's dedicated sports Twitter - find us *@sport_gem*

Cowbridge under-10s on tournament victory roll!

COWBRIDGE RFC under-10s played in another tournament and won again. That is now three tournaments entered this year and three wins!

We were finally blessed by some beautiful sunshine and good ground conditions for the rescheduled tournament at St. Peters rugby club in Cardiff.

As with all tournaments, the squad was split into A's and development team. There were two pools of five teams in each and both our teams were drawn in the same pool. Also, we were the only club to enter two teams, so all the development team's matches would be against the A teams from other clubs so it would be a real test.

The A team was first up against a strong Rhwbina squad and got off to a good start, winning 4-0 with tries from Henry Davies, Osian Bruce and Harry New (2).

Rhwbina had a quick turn around and were back on against our development team. This as a very close game, with Joe Funtek opening the scoring, only for Rhwbina to equalise in the last few minutes of the game to draw the match 1-1.

Barry were next to face the A team who were now in their stride, playing a great expansive, fast-paced style of rugby, running out comfortable 8-0 winners, with tries from Jake Davies (2), Osian, George Tuckley, Harry (2), James Lord and Henry Davies.

The development team then played Pontyclun, who proved a little too strong, winning a lot of turnovers at the breakdown, gaining valuable possession, which they converted into tries, winning 3-1, with the consolation try being scored by Joe Davies with a fantastic weaving run from his own half.

As both teams were in the same pool, they not only the support from all the parents for every match, but also the rest of the squad, and the A team didn't like to see their friends losing to Pontylcun and were determined to set the record straight when they were next up against them.

Once again they outclassed the opposition, winning 6-0, with tries from Harry (3), Joe Artensen, Henry Whitehouse and Jake.

Having been beaten by the A team, Barry were not looking forward to playing the development team and they were proved right, as we ran out 4-0 winners with tries from L.Thomas, Paddy Whitestone and Joe Davies (2).

In a fitting final pool match, it was time for our two sides to meet, which is the first time we have played each other in a tournament setting.

The game was a joy to watch and was easily the best match played all day, with both sides turning on the style. In the end, the A team proved just too strong winning 5-0, with tries from Jake (2), Osian (2) and James Collingridge.

The score wasn't a true reflection of the game, however, as the development team pushed their A team counterparts hard, only conceding the final two tries right at the end of the match.

Once the final pool standings had been calculated, in the last games of the day each team would play the team finishing in the same position from the other pool.

The development team narrowly finished in third place on try countback and played the home team from St. Peters in the third-place play-off. They ended the day strongly and won a great game of rugby 2-1, with tries from Joe Funtek and Josh Canning.

The A team, who finished top of their pool, played Kenfig Hill in the final, who had also won all their pool matches.

The boys didn't let the much bigger and more physical Kenfig team get up any speed, with Ioan Phillips and Ned Rees putting in great work in defence.

The quick hands and well-rehearsed moves from the entire team were too much for the opposition and we ran out 4-1 winners, with tries scored by Harry (2), Osian and Joe A.

In total for the day, they scored 27 tries and only conceded a single try. Well done to all the squad.

AL

The Bryntition netballers.

School's netballers show their skills in tournament

SATURDAY, March 5, saw the under-16 Welsh finals of the Anne Smart netball tournament, hosted in Llandrindod Wells.

The tournament saw the top eight school teams in Wales battle it out in an exhibition of exceptional netball.

Bryntirion had a stuttering start against their first opponents Ysgol Bryn Elian (Clwyd County Champions) narrowly losing 7-8 despite excellent shooting from Bryntirion's Meg Webb and Olivia Bournes.

However Bryntirion soon stepped up their game and went on demonstrate first class netball, effortlessly winning their next three games against Ysgol Uwchraad Caerinion (Powys county champions), St Josephs HS (Dyffryn county champions) and Ysgol Gyfun Bro Myrddin (Dyfed county champions).

The tournament went into the afternoon and the standard of netball seemed to be getting better and better.

Their next two games against Ysgol Gyfun Gwyr and Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf were always going to be their toughest opponents; although Bryntirion lost they were only one of two teams to get half score against both schools, ending 7-11 and 6-10.

After an analysis of results Bryntirion knew that they had to beat their final opponents Newbridge High School for a chance of finishing in third position. An outstanding performance from all players secured Bryntirion third place and they can now proudly say that they are the third best school team in Wales at under-16 level.

A huge thank you all the parents who made the long journey to mid-Wales and an even bigger congratulations to the players who showed discipline, strength and commitment throughout the tournament.

Pictured above are: (back row left to right) Holly Williams, Olivia Bournes, Maddie Page, Meg Webb, Jodi Jennings; (front row left to right) Rosie Pope, Niamh Phillips, Nyah Solder, Zoe Wilson.

BE

Vale of Glamorgan football league news round-up

IT was another weekend of league and cup action in the Vale of Glamorgan football league this past weekend.

In the big game of the weekend title rivals Wenvoe Arms and Cardiff Airport played out a 2-2 draw, Wenvoe coming back from two goals down at Station Road.

It was league leaders St Athan who benefited the most from that result, as they routed Penarth Town 9-1 to move four points clear at the top of Wenvoe and 10 points ahead of Airport, however Wenvoe have a game in hand and Airport have three in hand for what is proving an exciting title race.

Elsewhere in the Premier Division Masons Moving Group secured a 3-1 win over Island Marine while AFC Rhoose dispatched SP Construction 3-0.

In the First Division the top two teams lost with Glenbrook stunning Sully Sports 4-1, while Tynewydd made it three wins on the bounce since the enforced winter break with a 2-1 victory away at Cogan.

Tynewydd's fine form has moved them up to third and well into the race for promotion.

Meanwhile, Cardiff Airport B got back to winning ways, their 3-1 win over AFC Rhoose B their first league win in six after winning their first seven games.

FC Pumas moved up to seventh with a 2-1 win over bottom side BV.

There were only two fixtures in the Second Division this week.

St Athan B secured a big 6-1 win over rooted Cowbridge B while Barry Athletic B extended their lead at the top of the league with a 4-1 win over Penarth B.

In cup action Barry Albion made it through to the Dockers Cup final at Jenner Park after a dramatic 2-1 extra-time win over Knap FC.

They will play Dockers Reunited, who emerged victorious over Cadoxton Imps 4-2.

In the Supporters Cup Vale United made it to their third final in the VOGAFL in just their second season as they defeated Cadoxton Barry 2-1.

They await the winners of Cogan and Barry Belgrade, the latter booking their place in that semi final with a 2-0 win over Cadoxton Athletic in their rearranged quarter-final.

This week (March 19) sees the Barry Cup semi-finals as well as more league action.

HD

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Tristan Greedy would like to inform all of his customers that due to business expansion they have moved from the Heritage Business Park, Wick Rd, Llantwit Major to their new premises (next door to the Post Office sorting office), Llandow, Vale Business Park - and it's business as normal.

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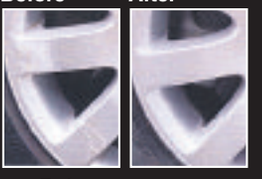

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Athletes face 40 mile marathon at Jenner Park this Sunday

THIS Sunday (March 20) at 10am, 14 endurance athletes from all parts of the UK will set out on the annual journey of 40 miles in Jenner Park.

Forty miles represents almost 161 laps of the track, and anyone even contemplating such a journey will have trained many thousands of miles in preparation.

However, even that distance pales into insignificance when compared to the fact that this race has now been held for 30 years.

Sunday, March 9, 1986, saw local athlete Mick McGeoch winning the inaugural race in 4:11:32 in dramatic circumstances, and Ann Franklin from Cardiff shattering four ladies world records in clocking 4:47:27. 61 world bests have been set during those 30 years, and the race is highly regarded amongst the ultra-running community.

Last year's winner, Grant Jeans from Glasgow, returns in search of a third win, but looks to face a tough challenge from Andrew Tuckey, now resident in Bridgend, but originally from Australia.

Andrew can point to some impressive performances over a variety of surfaces, including ninth place in the Western States 100 miles, and eighth in the 2013 World Trail Championships while competing for Australia.

If either Grant or Andrew should falter, then the ever-consistent Andy Gore from Cheltenham Harriers could spring a surprise.

A last minute entry has been received from Steve Way from Bournemouth AC.

Steve was due to run here last year but sadly injury intervened. In 2014 Steve demolished the UK record for 100km with 6:19:20 at Gravesend, as well as 10th place in the Commonwealth Games Marathon in Glasgow in 2:15:16, thereby setting a new UK M40 record, breaking the mark by Ron Hill which had stood for 35 years.

Although not in that form, this athlete's reputation will inevitably lead to huge interest.

Twelve months ago Isobel Wykes from Truro looked effortless in winning the ladies race, and went on to place eighth in the World 24 hour championships in Italy just five weeks later.

Hopefully Isobel will have made a speedy recovery from recent injury to make a strong bid to defend her title. However, she faces tough opposition from team mate Nicky Taylor, and Cass Chisholm from Birmingham completes an impressive looking trio.

The race also incorporates the Welsh Ultra Championship, and four of the athletes will be competing for the honour of championship medals.

As ever, there are some amazing personal stories to tell, none more so than by the oldest man in the race, 82 year old Geoff Oliver from Hinckley RC, surely the world's fittest octogenarian.

Last year Geoff set new world best marks for 30 miles, 50 kms and six hours duration for the over-80 category - and he'll no doubt be trying to better them.

Indeed, everyone has a fascinating personal tale to tell, and the event is an amazing demonstration of the indomitability of human spirit.

Thanks as always are due to many people, including Gary and Pip Hyatt for refreshments, Jenner Park groundstaff and the local council, and anyone who freely gives their time to come and support. As ever, admission for this amazing occasion is free. **MICK MCGEOCH**

ROETS RETURNS TO SCORPIONS

WELSH international Christiaan Roets, one of the founder players of South Wales Scorpions, has returned to the club after four years at North Wales Crusaders.

The 35-year old centre/second row has been one of Wales' most prolific players over the last seven years and is our country's second highest try scorer of all time with 13 in 21 games.

South African born, Roets came into the professional game just after he won his first full Wales cap. A shining light for Swansea Valley Miners and Bridgend Blue Bulls in the Welsh Conference from 2003-09, he won Wales Dragonhearts caps and also played twice for Celtic Crusaders reserves.

Those performances resulted in him being called up as a fringe player for the full Wales squad in 2009. He made his debut against Serbia, and impressed straight away as he scored a hat-trick of tries in Wales' 88-8 win, before scoring a further try against Scotland in Wales' 28-16 European Cup Final victory.

He has been first choice in the Wales side since then, has only missed two games (both against Italy) and has been involved in two further European trophy wins as well as playing in both the Four Nations and World Cup for Wales.

He signed for South Wales Scorpions a couple of months after his first few caps and starred in the club's first game – a 22-20 win over Workington Town in February 2010 - but after 15 tries in 41 appearances over two years, he took the opportunity to again become a founder member of a Welsh club, this being North Wales Crusaders, helping them to one promotion and two cup final wins in his time there.

Barry to host 'Swimathon'

BARRY Leisure Centre is to host Sainsbury's Swimathon 2016, the world biggest swimming event on March 18-20.

Participants can choose to take on a Swimathon set distance between 1.5k–5k, or set their own SimplySwim challenge and complete their own personal challenge in their own time.

A spokesperson from Legacy Leisure welcomed local residents to get involved as a great opportunity to kick start a new fitness goal and raise money for such fantastic causes: "Even small amounts can make a huge difference. Just £15 could provide an entire year's worth of school lunches for a child in Uganda, and here in the UK, £50 could pay for a disadvantaged young person to go on a sports coaching course, giving them the skills they need to find work.

"Join other swimmers afterwards in our dedicated Meet & Greet area to share your achievements with a warming hot chocolate & flapjack and to receive a goody bag and medal or phone 01446 403000."

Pool times: Barry, Saturday, March 19 (12pm-3pm); Sunday, March 20 (1.30pm-4.30pm).

Penarth, Saturday, March 19 (1pm-4pm); Sunday, March 20 (10pm-1pm).

Llantwit, Saturday, March 19 (2pm-5pm); Sunday, March 20 (10pm-2pm).

For further details, phone Barry Leisure Centre 01446 403000 or enter at Swimathon.org.

Bridge results

RESULTS of the Vale of Glamorgan bridge club for the last two weeks:

Monday, February 29, Celtic Sims competition - 1st Tony Ratcliff & Mark Roderick 72.50%, 2nd Julian Pottage & Simon Richards 61.48%, 3rd Vida Halford & Glyn Williams 59.58%.

Monday, March 7 - 1st Ray Smith & Gwynne Maddox 60.51%, 2nd Irene Thomas & Graham Jones 59.94%, 3rd Andrea Waite & June Williams 59.85%.

LE

Barrivale results

LATEST results from Barrivale Bridge Club for March 8:

1st Mick Green & Mike Close 63.33%; 2nd Simon & Debbie Richards 61.25%; 3rd Dave Thomas & Tom Kendrick 55.83%. Dave Thomas and Tom Kendrick won on handicap.

New members are always welcome at Barrivale. A partner may be arranged if required.

If you would like to join us ring 01446 418380 or 01446 733425 or 01446 735592 call at the Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road, Barry on Tuesdays at 7pm.

DR

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^(Including £0 Acceptance Fee on first payment and £0 Option to purchase fee on last payment). Permitted Maximum 28,000 Miles over 42 months. Excess mileage charged at 6p per mile+VAT.

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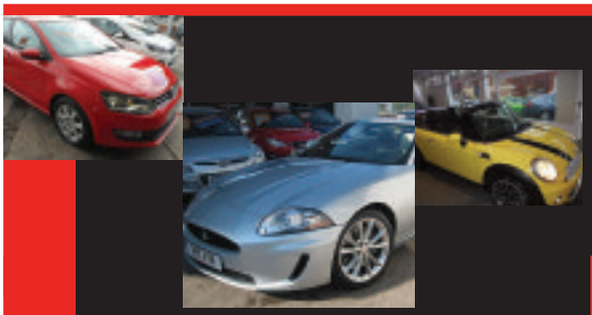

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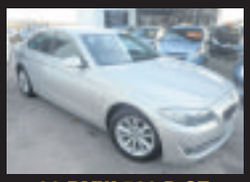

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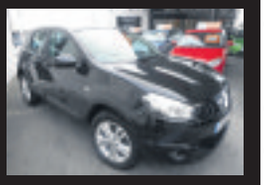

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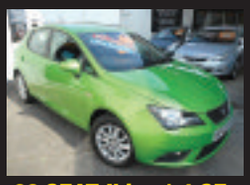

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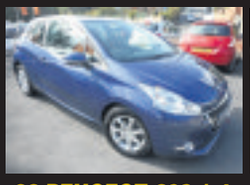

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58 **VW Golf 1.9 TCDi Match 5-Dr** In silver, 81,000 miles, alloys, a/c.....**£4,995**
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Colburn's brace gives Tynewydd FC the win over rivals Cogan

MEETING for the fourth time this season, Tynewydd FC went into this away day clash against high flying Cogan hoping for some revenge, having been knocked out of both cups, but beating their hosts in their earlier league fixture.

The task wasn't made any easier with numerous players missing, leading to a line-up with certain players playing out of position, most notably Julian Brana who slotted in at centre half and played like he'd played there his whole career.

Tynewydd shaded the opening phases of the game although both teams struggled with the boggy and uneven pitch which soon led to a more broken up game with numerous stoppages for free kicks and even an early substitution when Lyndon Peterson was replaced by Osbourne, making his debut for the team and instantly adding his experience to the middle of the park.

Cogan snuck in front midway through the half when one of countless free kicks found their captain who nodded home from close range. The half-time score was 1-0 to the home side with Tynewydd knowing they needed to create more to get back into the game.

Getting wingers Lloyd Union and Gareth Tinsley more involved started to provide dividends and with about 75 minutes on the clock, a tricky run into the box from Lloyd resulted in a penalty when he was upended in the box.

The Cogan keeper, to the delight of the vocal home crowd, guessed the right way and saved the penalty to keep the score at 1-0.

This only proved to spur the Tynewydd on and 10 minutes later they were awarded a second penalty for a deliberate handball in the box. Switching penalty takers, Andrew Colburn grabbed the ball and rifled the ball into the net to make it 1-1!

Sensing that Cogan were there for the taking, Tynewydd surged on for the win and amazingly with virtually the last kick of the game they grabbed all three points.

A viciously whipped-in corner from Lloyd Union was commandingly met in the air by man of the moment Andrew Colburn, who powerfully headed the ball in from the six yard box.

It was a true 'Roy of the Rovers' performance from Colburn, who was patched up from last week's game sporting 12 stitches to his cheek; man of the match was a mere formality.

All the boys at Tynewydd FC would like to dedicate this win to the memory of goalkeeper Jodie Shepherd's father, who sadly passed away this week.

Squad: J.Shepherd, L.Peterson, J.Brana, J.Clissett (c), P.Pydannah, Ll.Union, A.Colburn, G.Tinsley. L.Union, J.Williams, R.Smith, G.Osbourne, C.Marchant, G.Union, C.Coleman, C.Harding.

JC

Craig Bellamy speaks in the Vale

Craig Bellamy addresses the audience.

WALES legend Craig Bellamy was recently in the Vale of Glamorgan starring in a sports dinner held at the Vale Sports Arena in Penarth supporting PG10 Coaching to raise funds for their junior players tours to Real Madrid FC, and Barcelona FC.

Hundreds of guests were given opportunities to learn about Bellamy's career, achievements and stories from a successful professional football career for club and country.

Also welcomed at the Vale Sports Arena was PG10 ambassador and Wales legend Neville Southall

Further Sports Dinners have been announced with some huge sporting names attending the Vale Sports Arena, including Andrew Cole, Glen Hoddle and Paul Gascoigne; for tickets please email info@pg10coaching.co.uk.

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BARRY CHESS CLUB NEWS ROUND-UP

THIS week saw two matches being played in the East Glamorgan Chess League.

The Quarks in division 3 played promotion contenders North Cardiff Titans and later in the wek the Bosons travelled to Pontypridd to play the Barbarians.

The Quarks need to pick up at least 10 points from their remaining four games after they were defeated 3.5-1.5.

We knew we would be in for a tough game and tried to 'borrow' a couple of players who have been playing for the Camelots.

There was a quick draw for Ashley Davis on top board for his first match for some time. Defeats on boards 4 and 5 quickly followed.

Time rolled on and boards 2 and 3 were going to last the distance. Chris Green on board 2 had a difficult end game with his bishop and three pawns against Peter Slater, who had a rook and three pawns.

Both players had a passed pawn but Chris was unable to queen his pawn before Peter with the clock winding down.

So it was left to Peter Watkins to earn us another point. In a long game with seconds remaining on his clock Peter duly earned the win as Liam Penny eventually saw his flag fall as he ran out of time.

Unfortunately we dropped into the bottom three with this defeat. The Caerphilly Knights earned an impressive victory against the Penarth Piers to move level with the Quarks with a game in hand.

Our final game of the season in early May is now looking vital as we play the Rooks, who are in danger of dropping into the relegation fight.

Meanwhile, in the top division the Bosons earned a draw away to Pontypridd. This is really a dead rubber as the Barbarians have quite a margin above the bottom three.

The Bosons are stuck in third place, now 10 points behind Caerphilly Kings in second place. Another poor result and the Bosons will be looking over their shoulders at the chasing pack.

The Barry Chess Club meets at 7.30pm each Monday at the West End Club. St. Nicholas Road, Barry CF62 6QY. The club is open to players of all standards; whether you are interested in playing competitive chess or just the occasional friendly games.

New players are very welcome to just turn up on the night but if you contact one of the club members through the website we can explain what is happening on the night you have in mind, and arrange for someone to greet you on your arrival.

For more details visit our website at http://barrychessclub.yolasite.com.

PJ

Cowbridge Darts League round-up

ON Tuesday March 8, there was a high turnout for the men's doubles, with 27 pairs competing in matches hosted by the Highwayman Inn and the Six Bells Inn. It was a very competitive, if rather long, evening of darts.

The successful pairs were: Dai Thomas and John Fleig (Edmondes B), Martin Thomas and Paul Butcher (Edmondes B), Simon Reader and John Izzard (Farmers B (H&H)), Rob McCaver and Paul Ward (Farmers B (H&H)), Lee Davies and Morgan John (Llanharry), Paul Cates and Luke Woolf (Highwayman Inn), Tony Fox and Dave Thomas (Farmers Arms) and Tony Gratton and David Woods (Six Bells Inn).

These players will meet in the quarter-finals to be played at the Edmondes Arms on April 19. On the same evening the Farmers Arms will host the quarter-finals of the ladies doubles.

The current league standings, remain unchanged, and are: Edmondes B (86 points), Highwayman Inn (72), Llanharry (69), Six Bells Inn (63), Edmondes A and Farmers Arms (61), Edmondes C (59), Farmers B (H&H) (49) and Old Post Ladies (20).

Next Tuesday, March 22, the Highwayman Inn hosts the Farmers B (H&H), the Old Post Ladies hosts Llanharry and at the Edmondes Arms the Edmondes A hosts the Edmondes B and the Edmondes C hosts the Six Bells Inn. The Farmers Arms do not have a game.

The evening of darts starts at 8.15pm and spectators are welcome.

For further information e-mail Paul at cowbridgedarts@gmail.com, up-to-date information can be found on the website: www.darts.apsn.co.uk

PJT

'Sumo squash' helps raise money for Sport Relief!

A new sport of 'Sumo Squash' has been invented in Barry to raise funds for Sport Relief.

Neighbours and squash buddies Andy Green (58) and Neil Woodward (54) of Barry Island created the new sport that combines the physique of Sumo and the exertions of squash after 21 stone Andy wanted to equalize things with his 11 stone squash partner Neil.

Neil wore a special Sumo suit, with electric fan to replicate the bulk of a classic Sumo wrestler - Andy did not require a special suit.

Despite wearing the Sumo suit Neil still managed to beat Andy three games to nil.

The pair are hoping their game changing exploits will raise valuable funds for the Sport Relief Appeal.

Anyone wanting to donate should visit their Just Giving page at https://www.justgiving.com/Andy-Green29/.

Commenting on their efforts, Andy said: "Usually when we play squash, I might win the odd game. However, he played like a man possessed to still beat me. At least he can appreciate how it is to be a squash player on the rather large side!"

Andy Green and Neil Woodward have created a new sport - Sumo Squash!

Sport Relief is a biennial charity event from Comic Relief, in association with BBC Sport, which brings together the worlds of sport and entertainment to raise money to help vulnerable people in both the UK and the world's poorest countries.

AG

Bowls club's open day

RHOOSE Bowls Club is looking forward to opening the season for 2016 on April 2.

This will be a fun afternoon and will give a warm welcome to all.

If you are looking for a for a new sport that is competitive, fun but not to strenuous then this could be the sport for you.

Bowls is enjoyed by all ages and not just the older generation. We would love to welcome youngsters who could look to bowls as a sport to take them all around the world.

At international level the chance to travel is open to many, so like any sport the younger you start the better you will become, and who knows, we may be able to say that young man/lady started their bowling career at Rhoose. We have qualified coaches to instruct new players.

The open day starts at 2pm with tea, coffee and a bar available, so come along to say hello and start a new sport.

For further information please contact Miss Jo Hopkins on 01446 710366.

RC

Tennis team celebrates promotion

CONGRATULATIONS to Cowbridge Tennis Club ladies doubles second team, who have successfully completed their Cymru Kitchen Winter League and have been promoted to the next division!

Throughout the 50-60 mph winds, hail and rain, the ladies have played outdoors and only lost two matches!

Our promotion hinged on our last match against Rhiwbina, which Cowbridge narrowly won by just five games!

Kirsty Heald and Natalie Morgan played a superb couple of matches, winning 6-0, 6-1, then 6-0, 6-0.

The second pairing of Kathy Harwood-Morgan and Sara Creighton had a hotly contested match with numerous matches going to deuce, though they unfortunately lost 5-7, 0-6, 0-6, 2-6.

Thanks to all the ladies who played this winter including Kate Button, Sarah Penketh, Erica Lloyd, Claire Davies, Christine Hanson and Katie Betts.

KH

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SIX NATIONS RUGBY

Picking up the pieces after the Twickenham no-show

Wales **3** England **1** – *tries that is* – but where was the fire-breathing Dragon?

Pictures by the Huw Evans Agency.

ABOVE: In-form George North rounds off a wonderful Welsh move that showed just what the team is capable of when given its head. TOP, centre: the outstanding Taulupe Faletau crashes over for a well-deserved try.

WALES NEED TO BRING THAT LAST 20 MINUTES TO THE HEAD OF THE QUEUE!

BACK PAGE COMMENT by Don John

IN the aftershock of a Twickenham defeat that was far more conclusive than the narrowness of the 25-21 result would suggest, the stunned Welsh camp has had little time to recover its lost pride – and at least end a disappointing Six Nations campaign on a more positive note against lowly Italy in Cardiff on Saturday.

After a bafflingly-listless first half display that, sadly, has become all too common as the Achilles heel of a hugely-talented group of players prone to sleep walking out of the blocks, and then forced to live dangerously and play catch-up rugby as time runs out (as happened again on Saturday), it was hardly surprising that a far more urgent and committed home side took full advantage.

That in a transformed last quarter, a long overdue injection of energy from the replacements bench saw Welsh players suddenly cast off their shackles and, amazingly, run in two converted tries in the space of five minutes, to add to an earlier touchdown and get within four points of victory at the death – was scant consolation, as England took the spoils for their 25th Triple Crown – the first under their new regime.

Even more concerning was Wales' head coach Warren Gatland's typically frank post-match admission that he was flummoxed by his team's strangely inept first half performance.

"It was unacceptable… but I don't know what the answer is", he said tight-lipped… "We were terrible. We just didn't turn up (for an hour). We have got to be honest and say – where was the energy? We looked tired and were not enthusiastic enough," he added somewhat surprisingly – given that the players had just spent two weeks together in camp preparing for the game.

Both the team and coaching staff would need to look at themselves, to see what had gone wrong, he said, though he intimated the fault primarily lay with players who had failed to implement the game plan correctly.

In fact, such was the Kiwi's displeasure that he had even toyed with making changes after just 25 sluggish minutes in an error-ridden first half that was marked by a rash of missed tackles (Wales would record a staggering 25 before the end), dropped passes, sloppy field kicking, and indiscipline, punished by three Owen Farrell penalties and conversion of an Anthony Watson try which gave England a commanding 16-0 lead at halftime.

When, four minutes after the restart, Farrell added a fourth penalty to make the score 19-0, a misfiring Wales, whose struggles in both the tight and loose were exacerbated by a suddenly malfunctioning lineout, were staring an unexpected defeat of epic proportions in the face.

They were given a glimmer of hope when Ospreys outside half Dan Biggar, charged down an attempted clearance by his opposite number George Ford and touched down under the posts for a try he converted himself. Wales had closed the gap to 19-7 which coincided with the departure of injured skipper Sam Warburton.

As pressure on the embattled Welsh defence was renewed, the men in white took what seemed an unassailable lead with two more well-struck penalties by Farrell to make the score 25-7, moving into the final quarter, when Gatland played his last hand with fresh legs from the substitutes' bench.

Suddenly, the men in red were transformed, shook off their lethargy and the shackles that had bound them, and finally upped the tempo, aided by a yellow card given to England prop Dan Cole just after the 70-minute mark.

Sustained assaults had a suddenly back-pedalling England defence at sixes and sevens, yielding two very well-worked tries, by George North and Taulupe Faletau in the space of four minutes.

Both were converted by outside half Rhys Priestland who, with fellow replacements Rhys Webb and hooker Ken Owens, had sparked the belated revival that incredibly brought Wales to within four points at 25-21 with just two minutes left to the final whistle.

With England now desperately clinging on to avoid a repeat of the drama last autumn, when an outplayed Wales sneaked the honours in the dying minutes of their Rugby World Cup pool game at Twickenham, there was still time for one final twist when North was controversially deemed to have had a foot in touch before passing to Webb, who could have continued the attack.

In the end, even though Wales scored three tries to England's one, the camp admitted it was, "*too little, too late*". Few would begrudge the 'old enemy' a deserved victory that now sets up new coach Eddie Jones to match Gatland's achievement in winning a Grand Slam at his first attempt.

Only sorry France, demolished 29-18 by Scotland, now stand in their way in Paris this weekend.

Meanwhile, Gatland will pick up the pieces and aim to prove that the first hour at Twickenham was an aberration. He hinted though at changes to come for the final game against Italy, who were crushed 58-15 by Ireland on Saturday.

The question is, will Wales' poor showing signal a renewed emphasis on the tried and tested structured approach that has brought such success – or will that final exhilarating 20 minutes underline that there is another, heads-up variation – one which produces scintillating tries that have been in such short supply of late?

A dynamic Wales under-20s team, playing at high tempo, pointed the way forward when running in six tries to blow away their English counterparts 42-16 at the weekend and set themselves up for a Grand Slam title that has eluded the seniors.

When Eddie Jones suddenly ended his self-imposed press purdah, he had insisted there were "*no hang ups*" in the England camp over last autumn's traumatic loss to Wales that prematurely ended the host nation's Rugby World Cup at the pool stage, and got his predecessor the sack.

Nor had the record 30-3 defeat in Cardiff in 2013, which robbed England of a Grand Slam, left any "*lasting scars*".

However, skipper, Dylan Hartley, admitted: "*I'm sure there will be individuals who will have something going on here (tapping his head) and thinking... I'm not going to let that happen again*"… But then he added, "*As a team, we are not going to; that ain't happening again…*"

No-one can deny that they proved the point on Saturday – but it was still a close-run thing!

The already battered Italians could now be in for a severe Gatland backlash from an under-fire team captained by Dan Lydiate – minus the injured Alun Wyn Jones and skipper Sam Warburton – with Luke Charteris, Rhys Webb, Hallam Amos and Justin Tipuric drafted in to provide more fizz.

WALES TEAM

Liam Williams; Hallam Amos, Jonathan Davies, Jamie Roberts, George North; Dan Biggar, Rhys Webb; Rob Evans, Scott Baldwin, Samson Lee, Bradley Davies, Luke Charteris, Dan Lydiate (capt), Justin Tipuric, Taulupe Faletau. Replacements: Ken Owens, Gethin Jenkins, Aaron Jarvis, Jake Ball, Ross Moriarty, Gareth Davies, Rhys Priestland, Gareth Anscombe.

ABOVE: Dan Biggar caps an individual effort after charging down George Ford's kick with a try that began the Wales fight-back.

STATE OF THE SIX NATIONS

I REFER to the Back Page Comment (on March 3) by Don John – an excellent article which comprehensively accounts for the current state of our Six Nations, and our results at the recent World Cup.

The best Six Nations in recent times has been the 2015 tournament. Results were so close on the final day that it was all about scoring points.

Leaking a few tries wasn't as important as scoring as many as possible at the other end.

What a spectacle it was!

DAVID JONES

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